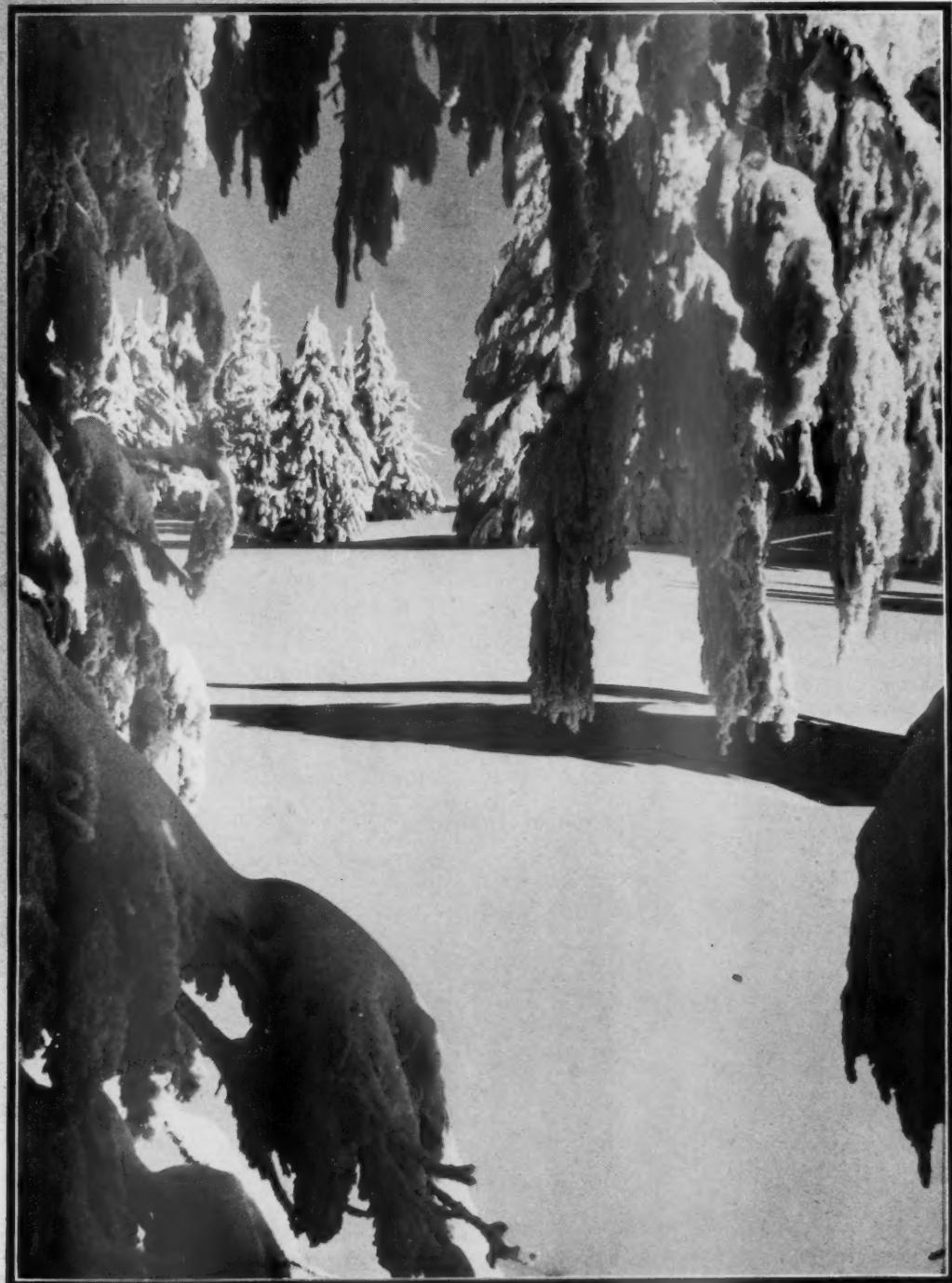


# American FORESTS



DECEMBER 1932

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Photograph by E. Kuehne

"In the Christmas Woods"

# AMERICAN FORESTS

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Photograph from the NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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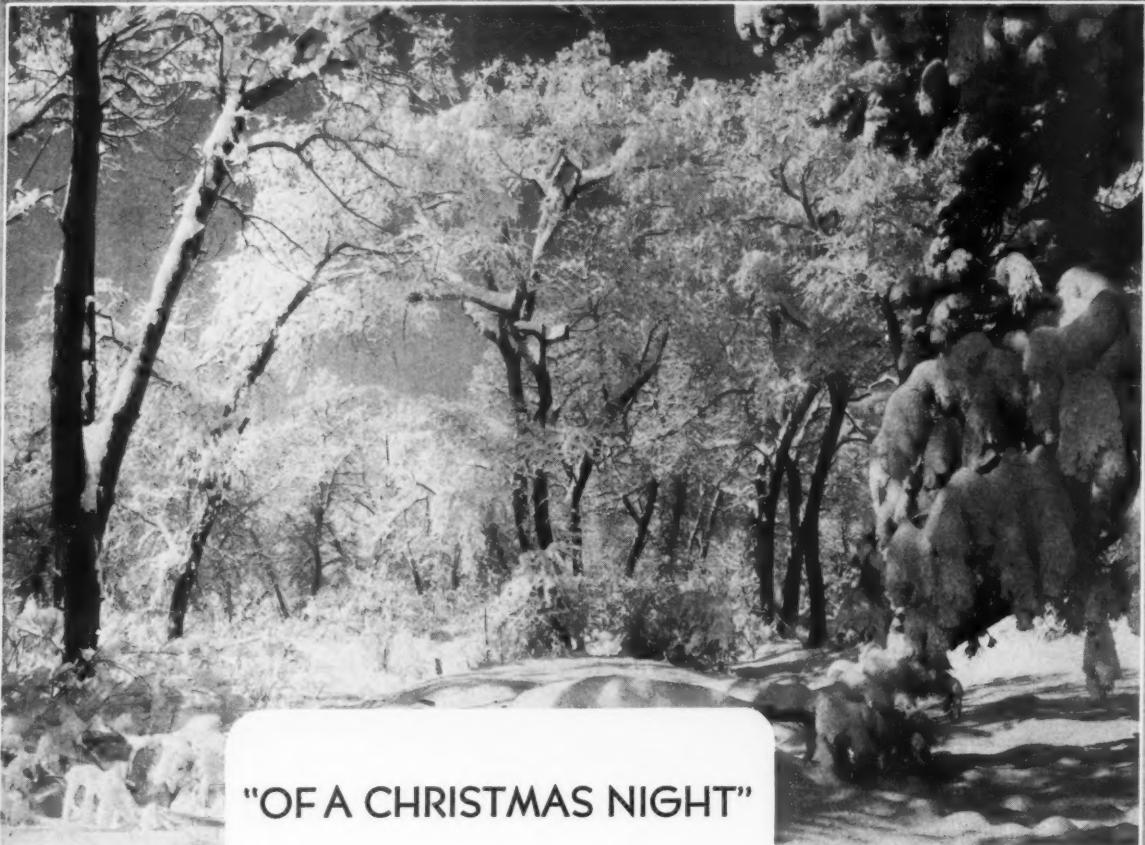
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## "OF A CHRISTMAS NIGHT"

By

MARY LOUISA HELLINGS

*When the moon from her great silver throne looks down upon our winter night, upon the Snow Queen crowned with spotless gifts of grace, there is a festival taking place among the trees,—a Christmas festival, heralding the birth of the new-born King.*

*E*very branch and twig is wreathed with countless jewels heaped so high the snow gems slide off and sift down like a misty veil, to cling to the little twigs below.

*S*he lures me nearer with her bewitching fragrance and charming silhouettes. And I am sure I never saw such a wealth of sparkling gifts as on the Snow Queen's robes when the moon looks down from her silver throne. Such beauty clinging close, so wild and free, that it seems all about her there are elfin maidens clad, too, in jewels of white, dancing and clapping their tiny hands with delight. But when North Wind comes over the hill to join in their festival all the elfin snow maidens scatter and dance away to sheltered places among the evergreens, for he is a God of unseen power, and one to fear should he be angry. But this night of festival he is very mild and soon all the maidens gather round to listen as he plays his flute at the Snow Queen's Christmas party 'neath the wreathed boughs of my hemlocks.

# THE JUNGLE HARVEST OF CHRISTMAS NUTS

By IGNATIUS PHAYRE

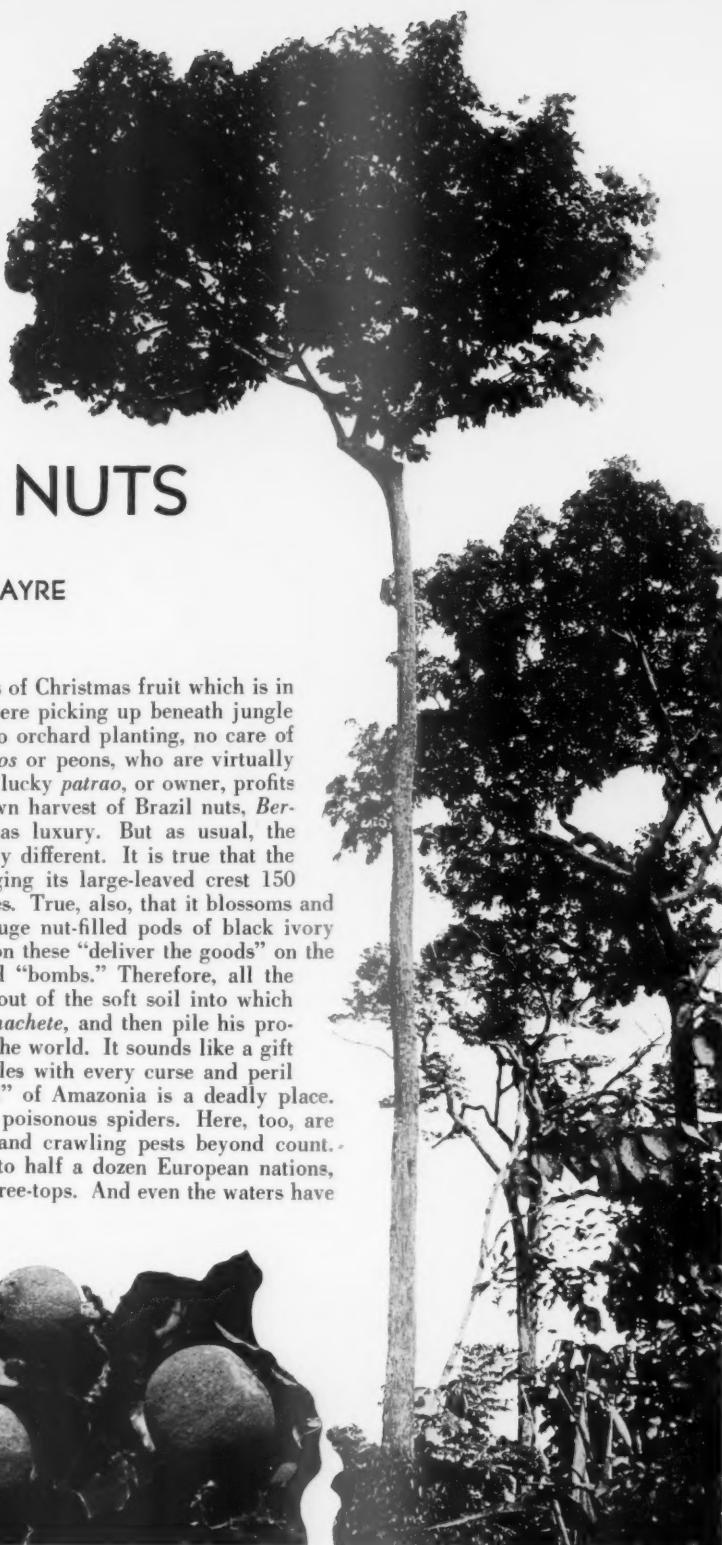
IT IS ALLURING to hear of thousands of tons of Christmas fruit which is in universal demand, yet is to be had for the mere picking up beneath jungle giants of the stupendous Amazon Valley. No orchard planting, no care of the trees—and the labour of semi-savage *caboclos* or peons, who are virtually slaves and are paid mainly in goods; so that the lucky *patrão*, or owner, profits every way. Such is the theory of the little-known harvest of Brazil nuts, *Bertholletia excelsa*, so well known as a Christmas luxury. But as usual, the economic facts of this unique industry are vastly different. It is true that the magnificent *castanha do pará* grows wild, flinging its large-leaved crest 150 feet or so into the blazing blue of equatorial skies. True, also, that it blossoms and fruits without aid from man. Neither do the huge nut-filled pods of black ivory need to be won from the trees. For in due season these "deliver the goods" on the forest floor in a formidable rain of four-pound "bombs." Therefore, all the anaemic Amazon peon has to do is to dig these out of the soft soil into which they have fallen, split them open with a steel *machete*, and then pile his produce into reed baskets ready for the markets of the world. It sounds like a gift of an idyllic Eden; yet the industry fairly bristles with every curse and peril in Nature's sinister armoury. This "Green Hell" of Amazonia is a deadly place. Here are vampire-bats, as well as serpents and poisonous spiders. Here, too, are miasmic swamps and feral beasts, with flying and crawling pests beyond count. Often the jungle is flooded over an area equal to half a dozen European nations, so that monkeys and jaguars must travel by the tree-tops. And even the waters have terrors in lurk: the dread *piranha*, or cannibal-fish, electric eels and poison snakes that swim. The very trees and plants, lianes and thorns and orchids, exhale disease and sap a man's vitality. No European can stay in it long and live. Such is the habitat of the *castanha*, or Brazil-nut tree, whose rich harvest has long since taken the place of wild "Pará" rubber owing to the plantation commodity having ruined this once famous trade.

This noble *castanha* is indigenous to Brazil. I measured one on the Rio Trompetas that was ten feet in diameter at the base, with the usual long straight trunk, branching only high up, and showing large dark-green and deeply-ribbed leaves. Half-breed harvesters, piloted by naked savages, will hunt for new groves with all the



The Brazil nut tree (*castanha do Pará*) grows wild, flinging its beautiful large-leaved crest one hundred and fifty feet high into the blazing blue of jungle skies. And in royal prodigality yields its fruit—raining upon the forest floor huge four-pound "bombs" of black vegetable ivory for the jungle harvest of Christmas nuts to supply the markets of the world. This industry the author thrillingly describes as full of sinister terror and peril.

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United States Forest Service

zest of gold-seekers. White clusters of blossom appear on the tree from October to March, and the massive *ouricos*, or outer hulls—they weigh three to four pounds each—take fourteen months to ripen from the flower stage. So a *castanha* that flowers in autumn will drop its “bombs” in December of the following year.

The outer shell is of vegetable ivory, half an inch thick. Inside of it lie from fifteen to twenty-four nuts, disposed like giant orange pips; and a twenty-year old tree is already dropping from 500 to 1,000 pounds, including the weight of the outer husk. Since 1914 *castanha* exports from Brazil have ranked next to coffee in the exports of that loose, unwieldy State. Thus far, no success has attended efforts to acclimatise the tree elsewhere—though alarm was caused by the planting of *ouricos* in Malaya and New Mexico. For

up of ragged shacks without any floors. Often there is no shelter at all, beyond a palm-thatch borne on a pole, with no walls, no furniture beyond a hammock to sleep in, or a few mats of palmetto fibre laid on the drenched and poisonous forest soil.

The *castanheiro* himself goes in rags, or is all but naked. A reckless “dude” may wear crude rubber shoes; most of his fellows go barefoot, with dire results from snake-bite, or the infection of burrowing jiggers, or other evil insects. Their Indian aides, on the other hand, present a startling contrast to these abjects, being vigorous and alert, hunters of amazing skill by land and water, using the spear and ax, with blow-pipes and bows and arrows.

The task of picking up the weighty *ouricos*, or shells full of nuts, is full of danger, since the peons are constantly “un-



During the rainy season—from January to March—the great *castanha* groves unload their crop at the bidding of the winds. It is then the natives fare forth—in their dug-out canoes hewn from giant trees—to penetrate the dense jungle waterways of the “Green Hell of Amazonia” and recover the “bombs” that stud the sodden forest floors, for the nuts decay rapidly if left lying in the wet soil.

Brazil has not forgotten the historic experiment at Kew Gardens with rubber seeds from Amazonia, which were destined to eclipse a virtual monopoly, and give rise to British plantations on an enormous scale.

It is from January to March—the rainy season—that the *castanha*-groves “unload” their crop at the bidding of every breeze. The area to be covered by harvesters is enormous, and cropping goes on until June. In dugout canoes the workers penetrate the dense jungles for twenty to thirty miles and make haste to pick up the endless *ouricos* that stud the sodden floor, like unexploded shells after a mighty bombardment. For the nuts will quickly decay if left lying in the wet soil.

As usual in Brazil, this industry is but languidly organised. Living as they are forced to do in the most unhealthy region on earth, the labourers are feeble, inefficient folk, ravaged with malaria and hook-worm. Mosquito nets they never use, and quinine they will not trouble to take, even when their *patrão* supplies it. Their jungle camp is made

der fire,” especially when jungle airs sway the lofty *castanhas* and four-pound missiles come hurtling down from a height of a hundred feet or more. Men are often crippled for life, or even brained outright by a falling shell—only to be hastily buried beside the tree and speedily forgotten, as a casualty of this queer “natural war.”

Yet the tactics of these nut-troops do include measures of defence. Having hewn a clearing in the grove, they erect a huge *maloca* of thick poles, carrying a smooth thatch of plaited nipa-palm. Under this protection the men can work when a breeze is blowing, and the *castanhas* are in forced “artillery practice” against the hot forest floor below their evergreen crests.

In this shelter the heavy *ouricos* are broken and the nuts shot out into baskets, amid the thunder of fresh volleys from the air and the sliding of shells in harmless hail off the steep roofs of the harvesters’ jungle armour. When the winds die down again they rush out and hurriedly collect the big shells from beneath the trees. This is risky work, and entails

many casualties among the forest forces. Many of these men are free-lances, but all are bound by such law as runs in Amazonas to sell their harvest to the concessionaire of the grove they work in. The inner nuts are carried on mule-back to the nearest river. There they are roughly washed, and then loaded into boats for the long and difficult downstream passage to the *barracao*, or settlement, where the owner is established.

A half-breed may have one *barrica*, or 120 quarts of nuts to his credit, or about eighty *barricas* as a total for the season's crop. Sickly fellows will not produce half of this. All of them receive fifty per cent of their harvest, either in cash or in kind, without regard to the quality or size of the nuts delivered.

At the *barracao*, or river station, the Brazilian *patrao* runs a general store where all the labourers expend most of their credits, taking in exchange cotton-goods, hardware, mule-harness, tobacco and food. This last consists of coarse manioc-flour (*farinha*) and dried fish; these items, together with jungle fruits and such game as their Indian helpers provide, constitute the staple diet of jungle *castanheiros*.

From a *barracao* on the mighty Amazon system, the nuts pass to the *aviadores*, or brokers of Manaos or Pará. It is these men who stock the general shops of up-river *patraos*. So at every stage, new charges are added to the cost. Ten per cent goes to the *aviador*; then there are freight and



The heavy "ourico" or outer shell must be broken, and the nuts are then shot out into baskets. This outer shell is of vegetable ivory, half an inch thick. And inside, in symmetrical order, like the sections of an orange, lie the sweet, creamy nuts,—usually fifteen to twenty-four.



Part of a crop of Brazil nuts, packed in baskets, ready for loading and shipment by boat. The native harvester usually sell their nuts, freed from the outer shells, to the concessionaire of the grove they work in.

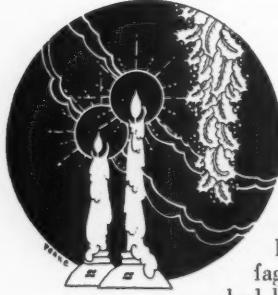
insurance, with municipal taxes, wharfage, lighterage, warehousing, spoilage and so on. In the two cities of Manaos and Pará, the nuts are put up to auction, after inspection by the exporters. Some of these run their own river steamers. A few of the larger brokers hire private boats, or make use of those of the Amazon River Navigation Company, and in this way cut down expenses between the jungle trees and export sales in the town.

Finally, the best nuts are graded and packed in boxes of 150 pounds for shipment to Liverpool and New York. More generally, however, *castanha* is shipped in bulk, with the vessels' holds so ventilated as to prevent damage or decay during so long a voyage.

It is strange that Brazil nuts are never eaten in Brazil. One might spend years in Rio de Janeiro or São Paulo without even seeing these rich white kernels on sale. But stranger still is the fact that, although at the source they cost nothing at all, raining down from jungle heavens like that Mosaic manna of the wilderness, by the time these "Brazils" reach our own opulent fruit-stores, especially at Christmas time, they are at luxury prices which would stagger the *caboclo* half-caste who has risked his life and limbs to pick them up and pass them down the rivers to the ocean.



By JAMES H. NEWTON



IT was Christmas of 1926, and I was on my way to Monette's camp on the Cou Cou—a river in Quebec. A thick and lazy snow filled the air, already dusky with the shades of late afternoon. For company I had a teamster, fagged out from the trek which had begun while the moon was still up, and a horse more than fagged up, from the burden of a half-ton load of provisions. We trudged wearily behind the sled, investigating now and then the tracks of wolverine and fox. On the left the west branch of the Gatineau unrolled its broad snowy bosom for miles; to the right the spruce and balsam hung their fronds, heavy with snow, in unbroken ranks.

Suddenly we came upon a clearing, revealing three log cabins through the flaky curtain of snow. A lone figure was splitting firewood in the yard. He did not look up as we approached, but a lusty shout from the teamster brought him running with much hallooing and waving of arms. As he came quite close we could see that icicles drooped from his mustache and that beads of snow dimpled his face and chin. The teamster identified him as the "chore boy" at Monette's.

The realization that we had at last arrived at our destination drove out, for the moment at least, all weariness. And as I allowed my eyes to take in the picture before me I reacted to something of a thrill that I was at last with the trailblazers in a virgin wilderness. Here, surely, I would find the experience I was looking for.

The chore boy informed us, after a loud greeting, that the force was three miles out in the bush, cutting through a road for future timber operations. I was astonished. Didn't they know it was Christmas? Then I recalled quite vividly what the clerk at the rail head had said to me. "You'll work if you're going to Monette's camp," had been his sage advice.

I recalled, too, the chap we had met earlier in the day coming out with a frozen foot. There had been several other victims of the cold wave on the Cou Cou, he had related with a shake of his head.

The chore boy steered us to the bunkhouse where the puncheon floor of undressed spruce poles caused excruciating agonies in my feet, for I was not yet accustomed to walking twenty-six miles a day in moccasins. But the camp stove, long and round like an oil drum, shed a gratifying warmth from its dull red belly. The chief source of light in the murky room which boasted but two small and badly frosted windows came from its grating.

On one of the balsam-bedded bunks lay a creature with black shaggy mane and a thick square beard. He arose finally and hobbled over to the stove, like a bear with a sick paw, or a dwarf with a club foot. He, too, had been nipped by the frost. The chore boy soaked his rag-bound foot with kerosene, much after the manner of a blacksmith shoeing a horse. In the morning the man would go out with the portage team, to seek more skillful treatment and perhaps save the limb.

I admired the manner in which the massive spruce logs of the bunkhouse walls had been notched and fitted and chinked to keep out the cold. But away from the stove the cold rushed up in full force through the crannies of the puncheon floor. Outside pillars of ice clustered against the logs, seemingly giving support to the roof so heavily burdened with snow. Along the eaves, roof poles ran out rakishly, and on these hung underwear, shirts and socks, stiff as board, supposedly drying.

Next to the bunkhouse was the "office," but since no one in the camp could read or write the building served as a storehouse. The cook house stood out on the bluff between the Gatineau and the Cou Cou rivers, the Gatineau tumbling down a great falls with a seething roar. Below the falls the Cou Cou swirled into the snow fields of the Gatineau, and from the front door of the cook camp one could see the big river swallowed up again by the forest.

Through this front door the men came in for supper when the moose horn blew its raucous call. If they came in the back door and through the kitchen they got a frown from Monette and from Pierre, the venerable cook. The kitchen belonged to the cook and the boss. Close to its everwarm stove they slept, and about it they sat in patriarchal dignity during the evening hours. As an army moves on its stomach, so does lumber camp society revolve about the throne of power, the cookery.

That first night at supper, it being Christmas, I was minded to engage my table neighbors in pleasant conversation. They kept their heads sottishly bent over the grub, which wasn't worth it.

The cook and the cookee were standing like footmen behind the long tables, watching the benchers with hawk-like gaze. When one motioned, cook or cookee would bring a dipper of water to cool his tea. But when one undertook to talk out loud he got a "chut chut!" from the dignitaries.

Pierre was a giant of a man, built like an ox, oddly bespectacled, gorgeously mustachioed, aproned, hatted, and adorned with a pipe that ceaselessly gurgled. When he pointed a finger like a peavy stick at me and went "chut!" I shut up. I learned that silence at the dinner table is not only esteemed as a mark of *politesse* but is a valuable safeguard against brawling.

After supper I decided to bear'd Monette. I had been in camp two hours and the head man had ignored me. When the men came in from work they sought to get acquainted with the newcomer and I became quite a fellow. Now I should like to get acquainted with the boss, shake hands and exchange courtesies.

Monette was last up from the table, just as he was the first to sit down. He ate with a total disregard for everything but his food, as a dog relishes a bone. His profile was Indian, his hair straight and black. His eyes had a Nordic greyness not altogether cheery. His galluses ribbed a pair of hard, muscle-packed shoulders.

When I stepped up to introduce myself he was eating prunes, but he stopped to survey me.

"Don't worry," he said, "we'll put you to work."

I believed him.

Christmas was a comparatively quiet night. The men sat around the stove in the bunkhouse and talked their usual line, concerning the boss, the job, themselves, whiskey, cards, log drives, trapping, and prospecting for gold. The Canucks, being in the majority, held the choice benches between the stove and the bunks. *Les Anglais*, the others, scattered through the great, low-roofed shanty. But not all were English—not by a good deal. There was young Harvey, British Canadian and my bunkmate; there was a clique of

"blue noses" from Nova Scotia, four Finns, one Russian and one chap, presumably English born, who admitted loyalty to no country.

Among the Canadian French there was remarkable *esprit de corps*. Sometimes they chattered incessantly, and with that gusto which makes a foreigner wild with curiosity. Sometimes one of their number spun a yarn of the log drives or of amours in Montreal. The story teller usually sat on the floor, with his back to a joist, where the firelight would fall on his features. Or he might take a stool, apart from the others and facing them. He had to have the showman's instinct, else his saga would fail of effect. Sometimes the Canucks just sat and thought, but always in unison.

Tonight some of them crooned Christmas folk songs, but that invoked a homesick mood and was not encouraged. The Nova Scotians discussed Christmas back home. Jim Thornton, the "buck beaver" of the gang, all at once broke into a series of carols. He had a splendid tenor voice, trained in the choir of a Nova Scotian cathedral. The camp listened; no one spoke. Outside there was the whispering seethe of the falls, the rumbling of frost in the river ice, very often

the crack of the cold in the trees. But the camp was quiet while Jim Thornton sang.

Then, as impulsively as he had begun, he stopped and began to swear profusely. I could almost believe he had tears in his eyes. Later I discovered he always carried his mother's picture, but that he never went home because of fear of facing his

old self. He was better off in the woods, where a hard-boiled character was respected. That was why Monette made him boss chopper, preferring perhaps to have Jim work for him as a personage than work against him as a proletarian.

At length the chore boy blew out the lamps, and the camp subsided into noisy slumber. So passed Christmas night on the Cou Cou.

At a quarter of five the next morning the cookee tooted on the moose horn and by the light of the stars the men filed in to breakfast, which consisted of three choices of meat—boiled, fried and raw salt pork—baked beans, apple and raisin pie, sugar cookies and prunes. The tea deserves mention. Pierre made it fresh every Tuesday and Saturday; the rest of the time it boiled and bubbled in a wash boiler on the stove, occasionally stirred and reinforced. But along with the native Canadian leaf tobacco, that quicklime tea is a necessary adjunct if one would learn the barbaric dialects of French in the backwoods. Only after the tongue has been "cured" with these astringents can it wangle the idioms.

We walked three miles to the job where the men were cutting a sixteen-foot road along the banks of the Cou Cou. Trees had to be taken out by the roots, which meant burrow-



Three log cabins loomed up, as we came suddenly on a clearing.

ing through six feet of snow. When a tree fell, the men cried *watchez-vous!* Canuck for "look-out!" A practiced lumberjack would run up the tree trunk before the tree had measured its length in the snow, and have the first limbs lopped off before it came to rest. Moccasined feet made them as sure-footed as cats.

Lunch or dinner came at ten-thirty. One man was detailed from the gang each morning to build the fire at the boiling hole. He went to the river for tea water; he felled trees for the men to sit on near the fire, a holocaust of logs, but none too big a blaze to match against the cold. When the tea pails boiled over the "cook" sent out a "halloo!" and the men came running. Knives were unsheathed to hew off slabs from the chunks of raw salt pork, and frozen hunks of bread were cut. The fussy ones toasted their bread, then smeared it with blackstrap molasses. Tea could be cooled instantly by letting the tin cup rest in the snow. Such a meal, taken often in the face of a bitter wind or driving snow, is nothing for anyone but a hungry man to hanker after. The gang always came tearing along like famished wolves, with Jim Thornton in the lead. Raw salt pork, frozen, is almost like ice cream—almost.

Sometimes Monette took dinner with the gang at the boiling hole, but as often he was away on snowshoes, scouting, or perhaps back at camp. Monette did the surveying for the road, using the thin edge of his ax as a sextant to sight with. He could not read or write, but he laid a road as neatly as a civil engineer.

Much of his spare time he put in trapping. There was a gaunt gray wolf that was in the habit of prowling around the camp, and Monette declared war on him. The wolf snatched Monette's fox bait; he cleaned the traps set for himself, and then insultingly sprung the jaws. He passed up poisoned bait and never missed clean grub; he howled outside the cookery and kept Monette awake at night. When the biped grabbed his gun and ran outside, the quadruped sneaked off into the gloom. The wolf kept Monette on edge all winter.

One day we pushed the road out from the green bush into the *brulee*, as the Quebecers call burned-over forest. This was a ghoulish desert of naked spars, grim by daylight, spectral at night, a veritable no-man's land where no living thing cared to stay. Here the temperature was as different from that in the green bush as ice chest temperature is from that of a hot house. Winds from Hudson's Bay swept with full viciousness across this waste, and storms howled with gleeful abandon. We were cutting over a hillside when the coldest day of winter came, fifty-five degrees below zero at high noon in the sunlight.

The wind had the lick of death in it and Thornton ordered the lunch fire kept through the afternoon. Every hour he brought the men back to it for a thawing out. Monette saw the smoke of the fire in the afternoon and ordered that henceforth the men must keep warm by work.

That day La Riviere froze his foot. He was the fourth to do so. He was carried out to the hospital by the portage teamster when he made his weekly call. But La Riviere did not go before I found that beneath his bearded, weather-

beaten countenance was the soul of a poet. For while La Riviere lay in his bunk, hoping that the cold lump of flesh which had been a foot would not rot, he read my books, and showed preference for the works of William Shakespeare. Since La Riviere spoke no English this seemed strange.

Somewhat later Monette asked me in a rather awed voice if I knew that we had a run-away priest in the gang. I replied that I didn't think so. La Riviere had gone to the hospital, out at the cache. But even if there had been a priest in the outfit, Monette wouldn't be worried. Priests didn't impress him. Pierre, however, worried about the rumor. To him a priest was as sacred as a totem. The priest held the keys of heaven and hell. The priest had dominion over the unseen forces of the world. The priest was the only being in human form who had power over Pierre's soul, for

Pierre had a soul, a lusty, healthy, vagabonding soul which was as likely to wander in the direction of hell as of heaven, without let or hindrance from Pierre.

To me Pierre was the essence of goodness. No poor belabored wretch of a trapper's sled dog ever passed the camp without being tossed a biscuit. His familiarity with the spirits of the forest was edifying. There was the fearsome *wendigo*, for instance, a flesh eater with the hide of a bear and the physique of a giant. Pierre's grandmother had known of an instance where a *wendigo* came to a house in the habitant country one night after curfew and carried away a small boy. The men folks pursuing him followed half-human tracks in the snow twenty-two inches long. Soon they came to the boy's skull. Bye and bye they found his crotch, and at successive intervals gnawed fragments of bone.

"That's a terrible thing, if true," said Monette, who had been sleeping, Indian fashion, with one eye open, on the bunk by the stove.

"It is true," said Pierre, "and that is why, in the habitant country, the priests tell the people to lock their doors after nine o'clock and don't let nobody come on top the house—nobody!"

In such forests as abound on the Cou Cou prowls also the *loup garou*, a human soul who has sold his immortal self to the devil and is condemned to haunt the world in the body of a wolf. This he does in the darkling forest, until he pounces on another human and so

pays the *bon homme* back with blood, redeeming himself.

"I have seen loose pieces of bark flapping in the wind at night," observed Monette, "and can see where a man could believe it was wolf eyes looking at him."

"You can't ever be too sure," said Pierre. "But as for you, *Monsieur le boss*, your blood is not human enough to satisfy a *loup garou*."

Pierre gurgled on his pipe and winked at me.

"And what of the *chasse galerie*?" I inquired.

This was a fearsome topic indeed. The *chasse galerie* is a ghost canoe filled with good men like Pierre, but men who have been a little too lusty for this unworthy life below. Hence they live a posthumous existence, forever suspended between earth and sky, riding in their *canoe enchanter* on the pathways of the wind. Nights (Continuing on page 671)

### THE CHRISTMAS TREE

Just a brown little stump  
A-settin' mighty still.  
Used to be the greenest tree  
A-growin' on this hill.  
  
Should've seen me then,  
A-swayin' in the breeze,  
Lookin' round and talkin' to  
All the other trees.  
  
A-drinkin' in the raindrops,  
A-shinin' in the sun,  
Wonderin' what 'twas all about --  
Oh, 'twas lots of fun.  
  
Housin' little birdies,  
Singin' 'em to sleep;  
Wakin' to their twitterin'  
When the dawn would creep.  
  
Oh, you little scrub pines,  
Lookin' down on me,  
Bet you could never guess  
What I grew to be.  
  
Got no head? Where's my arms  
And all the rest of me?  
Why, I gave 'em to the children  
To be their Christmas tree!

By Rosalind Sibold

# ROOSEVELT AND FORESTRY

FEW men to ascend to the Presidency of the United States have been blessed with a greater love for trees than Franklin D. Roosevelt, Governor of New York, who will succeed President Herbert Hoover as Chief Executive on March 4. Few there have been endowed with a greater consciousness of their worth, from both an economic and social standpoint.

To those who know him, or who have knowledge of his accomplishments in the field of forest development and protection, that part of his acceptance address at Chicago in July did not come as a surprise.

"Let us use common sense and business sense," he said, "and just as one example we know that a very hopeful and immediate means of release, both for the unemployed and for agriculture will come from a wide plan of the converting of many millions of acres of marginal and unused land into timber land through reforestation.

"There are tens of millions of acres east of the Mississippi River alone in abandoned farms, in cut-over land, now growing up in worthless brush. Why, every European nation has a definite land policy and has had one for generations. We have not.

"Having none, we face a future of soil erosion and timber famine. It is clear that economic foresight and immediate employment march hand in hand in the call for the reforestation of these vast areas."

As Governor of New York his achievements in forest development and protection are impressive. In 1929 the State passed epoch-making laws to aid county and state reforestation, the former providing for state aid to counties in reforestation, and the latter, setting in motion the machinery for the largest conservation project of its kind ever conceived by any state—a tree planting program that has carried the State to a reforestation record. At the time this law was enacted a plan was set up for the acquisition by the State and the planting of a million acres of abandoned farm land within a period of fifteen years. The Governor enthusiastically appeared before the people of the State in an active campaign for their support in financing such a huge project, and they not only responded but in such measure that in 1931 New York was credited with forty per cent of all the trees planted throughout the country. During that year more than 41,000,000 trees were planted.

The year 1931 also saw the revision in the State of a forest taxation law, to provide benefits to private landowners who engaged in reforestation of abandoned lands and the practice of forestry on natural woodlands. During Governor Roosevelt's two administrations progress has been made in forest fire control to the extent that new records have been achieved. Too, his administrations have seen the prevention of the westward spread of the destructive gipsy moth, and

during the past two years the area under protection from the white pine blister rust has been increased sixty-six per cent.

Governor Roosevelt believed that the mere acquisition and protection of forest lands were insufficient unless measures were taken to facilitate their recreational use. That this phase of the work has not been neglected is demonstrated by the progress which has been made in developing the recreational facilities of the State Forest Preserves. Public campsites, with a capacity of more than 30,000 campers at one time, are now maintained.

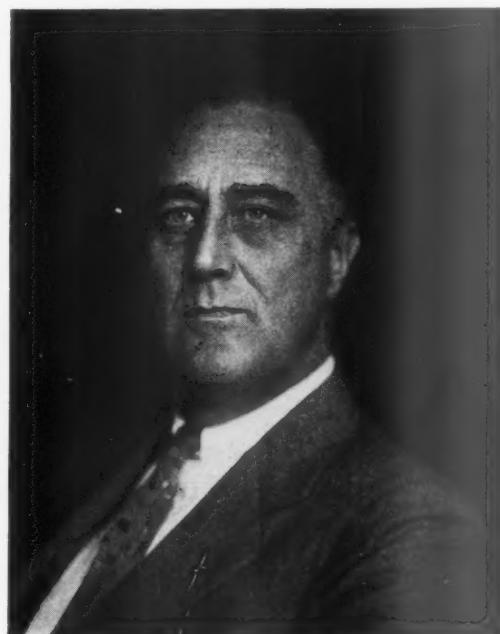
Governor's Roosevelt's interest in forestry has been by no means confined to its public advancement, for he has practised well what he has preached. For the past fifteen years he has carried out a definite plan of forest management

on his 1,200-acre estate at Hyde Park, New York. Much of this area is wooded—a veritable arboretum of native species. On the steep Hudson River slope is a primeval grove of hemlocks, whose beauty is unmarred by the ax, and which is being preserved as a demonstration of what the country's original forests were when the Dutch forefathers settled there.

The most impressive stand of timber is the white and red oak forest lying to the east of the Boston Post Road. By judicious and careful cutting, the beauty and capital growing stock have been preserved—a magnificent example of successful American forest management. Throughout, Governor Roosevelt has been particularly interested in demonstrations of forest plantations and in 1930 planted 15,000 trees for this purpose.

About the time Governor Roosevelt was well under way with his plans for forest planting and management at Hyde Park, his concern regarding the increasing burden of abandoned farms in New York led him to propose an inspection trip, particularly into Chenango County, with agricultural economists from Cornell University. Illness, however, brought about a postponement of this trip and the Governor went to Warm Springs, Georgia, to recuperate.

There he found land and forest problems similar to those which had commanded his attention in New York. He purchased abandoned farm land and planted it to slash pine and other vigorous growing southern trees. But forest fires continually jeopardized his project. Flames came from every direction and no one seemed to care. Realizing that this was fundamentally a human problem the President-elect went straight to the people of this Georgia community. He told them just what these fires were doing to their chances for prosperity, with the result that the Warm Springs Protective Association was formed. The Association today has a splendid record in fire prevention and control and the number of unburned acres have increased yearly.



Franklin Delano Roosevelt



The Great Ivory-Bill Woodpecker still lives!—though this study was made from a specimen in the Smithsonian Institution.

WHEN IN the April issue of AMERICAN FORESTS, Charles Newton Elliott, of the Georgia Forest Service, published an account of a pair of Ivory-billed woodpeckers, one-time lord of the Southland forests and king of his tribe, still existing in the great Okefenokee Swamp in southern Georgia, ornithologists all over the country raised the same cry. "Show us, or we cannot believe," they demanded. "The King is dead."

Mr. Elliott had not seen the birds himself but produced evidence of their existence, particularly in graphic descriptions by several natives of the swamp. Still the ornithologists would not believe the King lived. Reports had come from the Okefenokee before, they argued, and search had failed to reveal any trace of the Ivory-bills. Finally Mr. Elliott, taking advantage of a prolonged drought in the swamp, embarked on a determined search for the king.

But before he could report his findings there came from another region the cry "The King is not dead!" This time

# THE IVORY-BILL IS STILL KING!

BELIEVED EXTINCT, THE IVORY-BILLED WOODPECKER, ONE-TIME LORD OF THE SOUTHERN FOREST, IS FOUND IN LOUISIANA

By ALDINE R. BIRD

the ornithologists did not question for the birds had been seen by Dr. T. Gilbert Pearson, President of the National Association of Audubon Societies, and Ernest G. Holt, an ornithologist, in the Mississippi delta of Louisiana.

"As guests of the Department of Conservation of the State of Louisiana, and with Ernest G. Holt, in charge of the Department of Sanctuaries for the Audubon Association, I had the pleasure of observing some of these birds at close range," Dr. Pearson stated. "Single females were seen on several occasions, but we could not be sure whether these were the same or different birds. It is certain that at least two females and a male were not repeats.

"About April 15, 1932, Mason Spencer killed a male Ivory-bill in a great forest in Madison Parish, Louisiana, and sent it to the office of the State Department of Conservation in New Orleans, where it was mounted by E. S. Hopkins.

"It was to this territory that Mr. Holt and I were conducted, and from May 12 to May 17 were given every possible assistance by the State officials in our search for the Ivory-bills. We discovered the best way to locate them was by listening for their calls. Their note is different from any other sound in the forest. It resembles the noise that may be produced by blowing a small tin horn, and there is something in it that suggests the *yank* of the white-breasted nuthatch."

Mr. Elliott, however, failed again in his quest. With Lem Griffis, one of the natives who claims to have seen the Ivory-bill, as his guide, he explored the Okefenokee in vain. In a statement to The American Forestry Association he gives the following account of his trip:

"Though we explored a great deal of that vast, impenetrable marshland northwest of Big Water Lake, which lies north of Minnie Lake where Stephens and I camped last fall, the birds had evidently moved or were ranging in other sections, for we neither saw nor heard them," he reported. "Possibly their absence from this locality is due to the disastrous swamp fires which occurred last year."

"We found where the birds were last seen nesting, and if it is true that the Ivory-bills make an elliptical hole, they certainly have been there. We also found patches of bark torn from nearby living trees, which, I am told, is another sign of the species. It was reported by the natives that they had been seen feeding on the huckleberries on Blackjack Island, but I did not have time to investigate. They were also reported to have been heard, though not seen, at the head of Big Water Lake."

"Somehow I am convinced that the natives of the swamp know these birds and that they have actually been seen and heard. I also believe, from reports, that more than one pair

breed in the Okefenokee." Up to the time of the finding of the Ivory-bills in Louisiana, the bird had not been seen for eight years. Professor Arthur A. Allen, ornithologist at Cornell University, came upon two of them in a Florida cypress swamp in 1924. They were in the act of boring a hole in a giant cypress tree for their spring brood, and after taking a single photograph, Professor Allen quickly withdrew, for the woodpecker had the peculiarity that once discovered it would flee the spot and never return.

He returned two weeks later to secure pictures of the nest but found tragedy instead. A taxidermist, accompanied by Professor Allen's guide, had returned to the spot with a permit from the State and destroyed both birds for mounting. It was generally believed the last slender thread by which the "bird of ivory" held on to life was unsuspectingly snapped by this act, and the King had joined the Carolina parrot in oblivion.

The woodpecker, at full growth, measures twenty-one inches in length and has a wing spread of two and one-half feet. His bill is nearly an inch wide at the base. The general color is black, with a considerable gloss of green when exposed to a strong light. The eyes are brilliant and daring, the iris of vivid yellow, and nostrils covered with white hairs. The forepart of the head is black to the peak of its crest, back of which and sloping to the neck is a gorgeous red plumage, spotted at the bottom with white, visible only when the crest is fully erected. A strong white line begins about a half inch under the eye and tapers off down the back where the two almost come together at the rump. The neck is long and curved, somewhat resembling a duck, and the beak is almost an inch wide at the base.

According to ornithologists, the Ivory-bill nests earlier in the spring than any other species of its tribe, some of them having been observed boring a hole for that purpose along about the first of March. Again differing from others, the monarch passes up the deadwood for the trunk of a live tree, generally an ash or hackberry, and selects a point at the extreme top, paying particular attention to the inclination of the trunk, first, because it wants retirement and sec-

ond, because it is anxious to protect the nest from the access of water during the beating rains. To prevent such a calamity, the hole is dug immediately under a large branch, and first bored horizontally for a few inches, then directly downward. According to attending circumstances, this cavity ranges between ten inches and five feet in depth into the very core of the tree, and the diameter usually averages ten inches at the bottom, but the entrance—perfectly round—is just large enough to admit the bird.

The eggs are of pure white and rather large in size, almost equal to those of a pullet. For the spring brood there are usually four, sometimes five, which are deposited at the bottom on a few chips. The young woodpeckers come out of the tunnel about the middle of June, just a fortnight before they are ready to venture in flight. The second brood, of from three to five members, makes its appearance about the middle of August. In the fall, the two generations of woodpeckers separate, but some ornithologists have agreed the parents have a mutual affection that is continued through life.

Audubon described the Ivory-bill's flight as "graceful in the extreme, seldom going more than a few hundred yards at a time, unless to cross a river, which was negotiated in deep dips, opening the wings at first to their full spread of nearly three feet, then almost closing them for a downward sweep, then repeating the propelling motion, performing in a single elegantly-curved sweep, in the middle of which all the beauty of the plumage was strikingly exhibited."

Audubon once came upon a wounded Ivory-bill near Wilmington, North Carolina, and captured it. At a Wilmington hotel, he asked for a room for himself and "baby," the latter being contained in a small box. The cries of the woodpecker so nearly resembled those of a distressed infant, Audubon declared, that the clerk thought the object in the box was really a baby until he revealed the wounded bird.

He locked the Ivory-bill in his room while he went out for food. Returning a few minutes later, Audubon said the wounded monarch had picked a large hole through the plaster, laths and almost through the (*Continuing on page 667*)



In the heart of the Okefenokee Swamp, in Georgia, where natives claim the Ivory-bill still is King.



Every child will have a living Christmas Tree if Mary Pickford realizes her dream. Here she is shown helping a young neighbor prepare for the holiday season.

A LIVING Christmas tree for every child! This is the dream of Mary Pickford, noted film actress, who is a true lover of trees. When a child is born, Mary Pickford believes, a tree suitable for decorating as a Christmas tree should be planted in the yard or garden, and the tree named for that child. In this way, every youthful member of the household will have his or her own tree to enjoy in youth and to cherish in memory all through life.

The dream was revealed by Miss Pickford in an address before the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce. Under her sponsorship as Honorary Chairman of the Christmas Trees Committee of the Chamber, 190 cities and towns in Southern California were requested to promote outdoor Christmas

## MARY PICKFORD'S CHRISTMASTREES

A LIVING TREE FOR EVERY CHILD IS GOAL OF BEVERLY HILLS, "HOME OF THE STARS"

By WILLOUGHBY WELSH



tree projects. To make doubly sure that her own city, Beverly Hills, would do its part, Miss Pickford sent out more than a thousand letters asking her friends and neighbors to join in decorating trees for the holiday season.

The Christmas out-of-doors idea in Beverly Hills is claimed to have been originated eight years ago by the Reverend Robert M. Donaldson, who decorated and lighted a tree at his community church. Around the festive tree his congregation gathered to express the gratitude and joy which the Christmas season symbolizes. Several witnesses of the beauty of this first living tree decided to decorate trees the following year. The movement did not, however, gain momentum until Miss Pickford and the chambers of commerce gave it widespread publicity in 1928. That year a 75-foot deodar, native of the Himalaya Mountains, and now standing in a prominent location in Beverly Gardens, was chosen as Beverly Hills' official Christmas tree. It was illuminated, and a program of dedication was held under the spread of its graceful branches.

This being an important event in the community life of Beverly Hills, Will Rogers, now self-styled Mayor Emeritus, sent Mary Pickford a message to be sure to get home from New York in time to turn on the lights of the big Christmas tree. Each year since, Miss Pickford has performed this civic rite, while all the community joins in the singing of Christmas carols. It is, indeed, an inspiring and impressive

beginning to the celebration of Christianity's greatest festal occasion.

There are at present eight hundred trees within the city limits of Beverly Hills that are especially decorated and illuminated each holiday season. With a population of 18,000, this makes an average of one tree for every twenty-three persons or every five homes. Beverly Hills, therefore, holds the highest known average for live Christmas trees of any city or community in the world. The number of trees increases from year to year as neighbors catch the spirit of the Christmas out-of-doors, and as new members arrive in the various homes, for each new-born babe must have its own tree. The trees vary from two to fifty or sixty feet in height. When the latter are located on hillside estates and brilliantly illuminated at night, as many were last year, they are enjoyed by residents and visitors for miles around.

The pine, perhaps because of its sturdiness and the ease with which the lights may be strung and adjusted, is one of the most popular selections for Christmas trees. But the faster-growing deodars have been chosen in several instances where owners of new homes wished to join more quickly the community Christmas celebration. Spruce and fir are also decorated for the holiday season. Often at a new home, or at one where there is no tree, residents use trees in tubs, the trees later being planted in their permanent locations. In gardens where Spanish or desert effects are rigidly adhered to, the owners string lights on cactus plants and palms to show their community cooperation and Christmas spirit.

This year, on December 24, it is planned to use an electric switch to turn on the lights of the big city tree and those on many trees in the surrounding neighborhood. Everyone in



Beverly Hills has one outdoor living Christmas tree for every twenty-three of its 18,000 population. Many of them, as the one above, occupy prominent hilltop locations and may be viewed for miles.

the city intending to illuminate a tree will be notified of the hour when the switch on this down-town hookup will be operated so that all may light their trees at the same time. This will, indeed, present a novel and interesting effect when the myriads of lighted trees make their dramatic appearance against the dark curtain of the night.

# Conservation Sidelights on Reorganization

By OVID BUTLER

Forestry and all other conservation activities of the Federal Government are face to face with reorganization. The Director of the Budget is now whipping into shape a plan of federal reorganization which President Hoover will present to Congress immediately on its convening next week.

What is going to happen to the conservation agencies?

In last month's issue, *Conservation Sidelights on Reorganization* turned the floodlight on this question and the uncertainty of its outcome. It exposed as the critical spot with which the operation has to do in dealing with conservation, the department selected to have undivided stewardship. In the second and concluding article, the writer shows why a blunder at this point would be disastrous to the progress and integrity of the government's conservation effort.--EDITOR

OUTSIDE the surgeon's door, the family waits. Fear mingles with hope and hope with expectancy. Will the operation be successful and the head of the family emerge from the operating room with promise of sounder body with which to serve his large and growing family? Or will he come out maimed, weakened, and less able to meet the heavy responsibilities that await him?

In this instance, the surgeon is Colonel J. Clawson Roop, Director of the Bureau of the Budget of the United States. The family is the people of the United States. The patient and the head of the family is the Government of the United States whose executive body President Hoover has committed to Colonel Roop and his staff of governmental surgeons for the major operation of reorganization long delayed. The operation is now under way, and if the President carries out announced plans, the patient will be wheeled before Congress within the next fortnight for the members of that body to pass judgment upon the scientific skill with which the operation has been performed.

But what about the 120,000,000 members of Uncle Sam's family? Why are they so concerned about this operation? The words "reorganization of the Federal Government" have dinned in their ears the past three months as a political shibboleth. They have roared along the ether highways and backfired with screaming static into twelve million radios. Now that the election is over and the air has cleared, it is safe to say that nineteen out of every twenty Americans who cast their ballots on November 8 view reconstruction of the Federal Government as an essential step in governmental economy. To them, reorganization promises the saving of millions in the cost of government and the lightening of tax burdens. In their minds, the quicker the thing is done the better.

Why, they ask, all the fuss about where to put this bureau and where to put that one? So long as those bureaus and agencies whose work has something in common are grouped together, what difference does it make whether they are in Department A or Department B? To them it appears a simple task of collecting an assortment of bureaus of the same general color, junking those that appear useless and grouping the remainder in a wing of the federal household selected according to one's taste for mural decorations or domestic economy.

While this may seem a colored representation of the rank and file conception of reorganization, it nevertheless ex-

presses a state of public mind that is a danger signal to the sound solution of the problem. There can be no minimizing or disparaging the need for reorganization. Our federal house has grown into a rambling mansion of many additions added from time to time in more or less hit and miss fashion and often with no relation to foundation principles or architectural design. Reconstruction is a desirable and necessary operation that must be performed, but it must be performed thoughtfully, skillfully, and in accordance with principles that look to more than current economy and day to day efficiency. Otherwise, in years to come, the operation may prove infinitely more costly than immediate savings.

This applies with special force to those activities dealing with natural resources whose values must be perpetuated and enlarged to meet the future needs of our people. Those who have explored the broader aspects of conservation as a social and economic responsibility of government well appreciate this. They are thinking not only of how to eliminate present competition, overlap, and duplication as between bureaus, but how the government as trust officer of public welfare may meet its larger obligations to society. Reorganization, as President Hoover has stated, must be based upon sound principles of government. Conservation thought supports him in his oft repeated principle of concentrating activities according to major purpose, but it does not square that principle with his assertion that the particular department in which the conservation agencies are grouped is of secondary importance to concentration itself. Allocation to a department whose major purpose or interest is foreign to conservation, it is held, would be as disastrous as grafting limbs from apple trees upon the branch of an ancient oak in the expectation that the former would flourish and bring forth fruit of improved quality and quantity.

The reasons for this position are to be found in conservation's purpose. The federal agencies now functioning in that field stand out as eight different bureaus attached to several different departments. They deal with natural resources, the aggregate value of which in monetary terms alone runs into billions of dollars while indirect values to society are incalculable. These resources are of two broad classes—those organic in character and therefore renewable, such as plants, animals, and bird life—and those inorganic in character and non-renewable, such as coal, oil, gas, gold and silver. It is, of course, a solemn obligation of the Federal Government through its conservation agents to exercise

wise and strict guardianship over these resources to assure that they shall not be unduly wasted, destroyed, or diverted. But it is an even more solemn obligation to exercise guardianship through which scientific knowledge, technical skill, and national planning shall flow direct and uninterrupted from a mother source to the end that these resources may, in so far as is humanly possible, be multiplied and may thereby render their highest services to the present and succeeding generations.

In this conception, those resources which by their nature are non-renewable naturally sheer off from those which are renewable and subject to the productive power of increase. The former being for the most part mineral are sub-surface resources, the conservation of which is limited to protection in place and to provident use through the application of the most enlightened chemical and engineering methods. The highest form of stewardship over them calls for engineering science and their administration naturally falls to the department of government whose major purpose is to promote engineering science and efficiency.

The renewable resources, on the other hand, to which the remainder of this discussion is confined, are living organisms dependent upon the soil for food, water, and environment. So vitally intimate is their link with the soil and the waters of the soil that severance of that link cuts into the very heart of nature's most sacred process, the cycle of matter upon which all life depends—man's included. These resources are in a sense living cells in nature's process of creation, and they are subject to man's control, reproduction and increase in the degree to which he understands and applies nature's creative laws. Their conservation in the larger sense depends not alone upon man's ability to protect through provident use those already at hand, but upon his ability to maintain and to make more productive the creative relationship between the soil and plant and animal life.

This relation is fundamental to conservation's basic purpose. It is fundamental to the larger purpose of the Federal Government to master the growing power of our different soils and to put them to their highest uses in meeting the manifold and complex needs of American society and American progress. The two purposes are one and inseparable. They are integral parts of the same problem, the successful working out of which must be intrusted to a single department. And this department must be competent at its source and throughout its various branches to deal with all different species of plants and animals, individually and collectively, in their relations to one another, their adaptability to our different soils, and their respective places in our national land plan.

One would expect to find, therefore, the conservation of all organic resources centered in the administrative branch of government dedicated to the promotion of plant and animal life and the application of biological facts to soil productivity and land use. But no such pattern prevails. The conservation effort as now spread into the several departments at Washington sprang into growth with the establishment of the Department of Agriculture, whose work fifty years ago led into the studies of trees and of the relation of trees as growing plants to the economic and cultural needs of the nation. That field flowered into the present Forest Service—a bureau of the Department of Agriculture whose conservation charge is the National Forests and the national promotion of forest protection and forest culture throughout the country. Following forestry, the work of the Department of Agriculture called for studies of tree insects and diseases and of problems of wild life. Today the study and control of tree insects is under the Bureau of Entomology, the study and control of tree diseases under the Bureau

of Plant Industry, and the conservation of wild life under the Biological Survey.

But across the Mall in Washington, about a mile distant from the Department of Agriculture, is the Department of the Interior in which there is another forest service charged with the care of forests in the Indian Reservations. In the same department is the Reclamation Service, charged with the task of reclaiming lands for agricultural use; the National Park Service to whose custody is intrusted masterpieces of nature's creative work within the confines of the United States, and the General Land Office whose historic responsibility has been to pass unappropriated public lands from public to private ownership under the Federal Land Laws. And down on Constitution Avenue is the Department of Commerce in which is lodged the Bureau of Fisheries, charged with the promotion of fish life in our coastal and inland waters. These bureaus are later day members of the government's conservation family, although they all deal with the conservation of organic resources—the General Land Office by virtue of the fact that there remains some 200,000,000 acres of unappropriated public lands which refuse to flow through legal channels from public to private ownership and whose organic resources are, therefore, a conservation charge of the Federal Government—a charge that has not yet been redeemed.

With the exception of the General Land Office, the fundamental purpose of all these bureaus, like those in the Department of Agriculture, is to maintain and redeem in larger measure the life of the soil as a ceaseless source of nature's creative beneficence. Had this conception of conservation purpose been adhered to from the beginning, reorganization of conservation bureaus, now widely scattered, would today be unnecessary. They would logically and naturally have fallen into the department where they are a functional part of basic departmental purpose. It will be remembered that twenty-eight years ago, President Roosevelt called attention to the anomalous organization of retaining in the Department of the Interior public lands set apart as forest reserves for the conservation of organic resources, while the scientific knowledge and trained staff for the development of those resources were in the Department of Agriculture. Under his leadership, the forest reserves were transferred to the Department of Agriculture and their names changed to National Forests, with results that have abundantly demonstrated the soundness of the principle.

In the past fifteen or twenty years, however, the government has drifted away from principles in keeping its conservation family together and bureaus have grown pretty much where they sprouted. So confused has principle and objective become that one hears in and out of Washington many proposals advanced for reorganizing conservation work. A few months ago, for example, the *World's Work* published a reorganization plan as "a pocket guide to the government's multiple bureaus with suggested rearrangements that would cut both cost and red tape." One of its proposals is to shift the Forest Service from the Department of Agriculture and the Reclamation Service from the Department of the Interior into the proposed new Department of Public Works, leaving the other conservation bureaus untouched. Obviously, this would be jumping the highway of conservation progress. The engineer may render a valuable service in developing machinery or building roads for the harvesting of forest crops, but when the enterprise is dedicated to the principle of biological control and production, as the government's conservation effort must be with respect to organic resources, his services become incidental to the dominant purpose. By training, knowledge, and background, he is unequipped to deal with the biological problems which hold the secrets of successful trusteeship.

Shortly after President Hoover took office as President, William Hard wrote a series of articles in *Nation's Business*, analyzing the incongruities of the federal organization and the lines along which reorganization was being considered by those in high authority. In respect to conservation, he said:

"Dominant opinion accordingly among the most authoritative federal reorganizers in Washington at this moment would erect in the Department of the Interior, rechristened 'The Department of Public Domain and Public Works,' an Assistant Secretary of Conservation with a Conservation Division under him containing most, if not all, of these federal agencies."

"(1) The General Land Office of the Department of the Interior because it deals with the vast expanses of our unappropriated federal lands which should be administered now in the spirit not so much of promoting as of regularizing and even checking the depletion of their surface and subsurface resources.

"(2) The Bureau of Indian Affairs of the Department of the Interior because it deals with extensive Indian lands producing large quantities of minerals and metals and trees.

"(3) The Geological Survey of the Department of the Interior because it does the drilling, mapping, and other labors which result in the classifying of different areas of our public domain for different varieties of potential usefulness.

"(4) The geodetic part of the Coast and Geodetic Survey of the Department of Commerce because it does the fundamental surveying underlying the mapping of the Geological Survey.

"(5) The Forest Service of the Department of Agriculture because every inch of land which it administers was given to it primarily not to be an hourly aid to business but a timeless reservoir of resources.

"(6) The Federal Power Commission because virtually nine-tenths of the applications coming to it for the use of water in the development of hydroelectric power deal with water flowing in our unappropriated federal lands, our Indian lands, or in our National Forests.

"(7) The Bureau of Fisheries of the Department of Commerce because it deals with more fishes.

"(8) The Biological Survey of the Department of Agriculture because it deals with more wild animals of all sorts and because its refuges are simply National Parks for our subhuman fellow citizens.

"(9) The National Park Service of the Department of the Interior because it conserves eternal recreational facilities for our human population.

"(10) The National Forest Reservation Commission because it purchases enormous tracts of land for our system of national forests and because it is surely preposterous that this purchasing should be done, as it now is, under the chairmanship of the Secretary of War. A Secretary of War exists for a purpose precisely the opposite of conservation. His great mission is to get ready to fight and to destroy. He should be left free of it."

The dominant opinion referred to by Mr. Hard was at the time believed to be the views held by the new administration as exemplified by its chief reorganization advocates, President Hoover and Postmaster General Walter Brown, Chairman of Joint Committee on Reorganization of 1920. If administrative opinion has changed during the past three years, no information to that effect has leaked from authoritative reorganization sources in Washington, with the result that today the belief is held by many that the reorganization plan which Mr. Hoover will lay before Congress this month will lump so-called conservation bureaus in the Department of the Interior. The only expression of a contrary nature has been a statement drawn from Secretary Hyde last winter by Congressman Colton during the course of a congressional hearing on bills to establish a Department of Public Works. Congressman Colton asked: "Then, as I understand it, Mr. Secretary, you do not indorse the taking of the Forest Service out of the Agricultural Department?" Secretary Hyde replied:

"No, indeed. The Forest Service, gentlemen, has gone to the point now where it is a part of the whole agricultural picture of this country, and a vital part. There is much more to forestry than the mere raising of wood, for it involves the development of the control of silviculture that will give us a profitable outlet for millions of acres of submarginal land in this country, which is the root of the farm problem, and that demands that the Forest Service be kept as an agricultural function."

The grouping of conservation and near conservation bureaus willy nilly in the Department of the Interior, in the view of most conservation groups, does not harmonize with the major purpose which should dominate the government's handling of organic resources. The proposal errs at the very source. The Department of the Interior is not and never has been the government's fountain head of conservation thought, knowledge, or action. The perpetuation and propagation of plant and animal life is foreign to its historic purpose and viewpoint. Its primary function has been the disposal of public lands and public resources under laws promulgated by the Congress of the United States. The public lands were intrusted to it to be passed legally and orderly into private ownership just as an estate would place its property in the hands of a real estate firm for disposal under stipulated terms. The department has never received a broad mandate from Congress to conserve the organic resources of the Public Domain. And if it ever assumed that responsibility, it has failed dismally as witnessed by the shockingly depleted condition of 200,000,000 acres of public domain today which have been under its administration since the formation of the Department.

The fact that in recent years there have been within the department outcrops into the field of organic conservation does not change the stripes of its major departmental purpose of disposal or its deeply rooted viewpoint. That viewpoint is illustrated by its sponsorship of the recent proposal to dispose of the remaining public lands by gift to the states and by the public utterance of its present Secretary in connection with that subject that "it eventually may develop that it is wiser for the states to control even the present National Forests."

But, it may be argued, reorganization as contemplated by the authoritative federal reorganizers in Washington will be a sort of renaissance out of which the Department of the Interior will emerge cleansed of its old purpose and old record of non-conservation and resplendent as the government's new department of conservation. But here the major purpose of organic conservation will step upon the stage, present the official reorganizers with a box of questions, and demand an answer to each. By way of illustration and example, let us draw a few of these questions out of the box without any reference to logical order or sequence.

**Question One:** It is the purpose of the Federal Government to promote the perpetuation and increase of beneficial species of wild birds and wild animals for the welfare of agriculture, industry, and the nation as a whole, and for time without end. It is well recognized by students of wild life that this purpose cannot be realized merely by passage of game laws or employment of game wardens. Its accomplishment depends upon the government's ability to maintain conditions of soil growth that provide the food plants and the natural habitats required by different species. It is now proposed to separate those birds that are wild from those that are tame, and to separate those animals that are wild from those that are tame, and to remove the conservation of the wild members of the animal family from the department most competent to deal with their life problems, and therefore most competent to perpetuate them. Upon what principles of better and (Continuing on page 648)



The site of the National Historical Grove in Anacostia Park, Washington, D. C.

## PLANTING TREES OF TRADITION

### Famous and Historical Trees Eligible for National Historical Grove

SINCE THE dedication on October 15 of The American Forestry Association's National Historical Grove in Anacostia Park, in Washington, D. C., tree lovers have sought to participate in keeping forever alive the strain of America's trees of tradition. From many sections of the country have come inspiring words of praise for the project, constructive suggestions, and worthy offers to furnish scions of famous and historic trees.

Such interest is inspirational. It is indicative of the spirit in which the Grove was conceived. For the Association or any other organization to merely locate and plant the young blue-bloods of Freedom would be in direct opposition to the purpose of the whole project. The Grove was established for tree lovers and every young descendant to find a place there will be a monument to their reverence. The American Forestry Association's function is to serve this public regard in recording the qualifications of the young trees and, in cooperation with the Office of Public Buildings and Public Parks, to provide for the planting, marking and maintenance of the Grove. To assure tree lovers that only trees of tradition will find a place in the Grove, the Association has set up certain regulations governing their admission. These regulations, accepted by cooperating agencies, will be applied to every young tree proposed for planting in the historical forest.

Every tree admitted to the Grove must be a direct scion of a famous or historic American tree. The parent tree may have gained fame through association with a famous event

or personage, or it may have historical significance. The Washington Elm at Cambridge, Massachusetts, is historic because it marks the event of Washington's taking command of the Continental Army; a great old holly tree at Mount Vernon is famous because of its association with a famous personage. An old walnut tree on the blood-stained battlefield of Gettysburg is famous because of its association with a famous event in American history; the 600-year old poplar on the campus of St. John's College at Annapolis, Maryland, is historic because it marks the event of a treaty made with the Susquehannocks in 1652.

The claim to fame or history of every tree nominated to the National Historical Grove must be registered with The American Forestry Association. Upon acceptance of this claim the Association will arrange for the planting of the young seedling, with proper ceremony.

The first scion to be planted in the Anacostia Grove was from Mount Vernon. Others planted included a scion from Ferry Farm at Fredericksburg, Virginia, the boyhood home of Washington; a tree from the home of Francis Scott Key, at Frederick, Maryland; a tree from the historic Gettysburg battlefield; a young walnut from the home of Thomas Heyward, at Ridgeland, South Carolina; one from old Fort Frederick; a tree from Win-

chester, Virginia, site of famous Fort Loudon; and a scion from a great old tree at Arlington National Cemetery.

On April 28, 1933, the birthday of President James Monroe, a descendant of a tree he cherished at his home at Oak Hill, Virginia, will be set out in the Grove with fitting ceremony.



Boy Scouts gathering walnuts from one of the famous trees on the grounds of the Lincoln Memorial, a scion of which will be planted in the National Historical Grove.



## LADY SAMARITAN OF THE CHRISTMAS GREENS

THROUGH WHOSE EFFORTS THE MOUNTAIN FOLK HAVE LEARNED  
TO HARVEST, AND STILL MAINTAIN THEIR CHRISTMAS CROP

By JOSEPHINE LAXTON

CHRISTMAS in western North Carolina does not differ materially from Christmas in other regions or communities in America. In Asheville, particularly, is there the same happy activity, the same pageant of color as hundreds of evergreens are sold in the streets and adorned with tinsel and lights in the homes.

Does not differ, that is, except that at the market places and along the streets the romantic mountain folk now offer their greens and wreaths and berries with a keener appraisal of their worth and an understanding of their natural beauty that never fails to intrigue interest and admiration. For the people of Asheville have long witnessed the Christmas pilgrimages of their picturesque mountain neighbors into the city and are well aware of the tragedy that marked their coming. From all directions they came, their wagons loaded with spruce, fir, holly, cedar and dogwood, intermingled with homemade baskets tightly packed with bunches of galax and "turkey brush," and for long hours they stood on the frosty pavement, eager faced women in outmoded garments, tall, stooped men, their features sharpened by the cold, crying their wares in a picturesque language, offering them for a pittance.

But their products were gathered with no thought for the future. Waste abounded on every side. It was evident that a little care had been given to methods of harvesting. The trees and greens were cut where they were found, with no regard for property rights. Beau-

tiful sprays of holly would not do—in some cases whole trees were cut down and hauled to the city. So when the people of that city realized that their mountain folk were opening their eyes to the natural beauty of their woodlands, harvesting their Christmas crop to sustain this beauty, and presenting it for sale in a convincing and attractive way, they began to wonder and to ask why.

Their answer was Mrs. U. Gartin Speed, of Biltmore Forest, Chairman for North Carolina of the Garden Club of America, and a conservationist of the first order. Combining utility with beauty, her work with the mountain folk has been carried direct to their firesides, and there are many cabins in the rugged and picturesque land of the tulip trees

and rhododendron where she is a welcome visitor. Under her inspirational leadership the mountain women, growers and

vendors of Christmas greens, have fashioned a club as a medium of gaining knowledge of proper measures of practical conservation.

When Mrs. Speed settled at Biltmore Forest ten years ago she was not without intimate knowledge of plant life. Earlier she had moved from Chicago to Tryon where the friendship of John Burroughs, Margaret W. Morely and Dr. Edward Emerson, who was then



In marketing Christmas greens for the mountain folk, the Lady Samaritan obtained a showroom in Asheville, where the buyer could be assured that the forest crop had been properly harvested, with due regard for its perpetuation.

writing his *Life of Thoreau*, inspired and stimulated her. In a short time she was delving with remarkable success into the secrets of growing plants, many of them unknown in the mountain sections of North Carolina. Too, the mountain folk, whom she had often heard called "our belated ancestors," intrigued her.

Once she had witnessed the Christmas pilgrimage of the mountain folk to Asheville, Mrs. Speed pointed her interests toward their release from ignorance so far as natural beauty and utilization were concerned. She had long since come to realize that education was the one medium through which practical conservation, particularly of the forests, could be achieved among these people.

She opened her campaign on the sidewalks, planting seeds of thought here and there. On a busy corner a lean mountaineer offered to sell her an exquisite holly tree laden with berries.

"How much do you want for it?" she asked.  
"Two dollars," the man replied hopefully.

In a kindly way he was told that many years had been required for the holly to reach its size and beauty and that by cutting the tree he was destroying not only the beauty of his native woodland but diminishing his source of holly for future sales at Christmas.

"I know a woman," Mrs. Speed told him, "who made \$17 by selling sprays from a single tree—and she still has the tree for future pruning. If you would cut off certain branches properly you could do the same thing."

"I never thought of that," replied the man, gazing ruefully at his ruined possession.

Her next step was to carry her knowledge into the homes of the mountaineers and to organize the women to real conservation effort. Her plan was accepted and a group of twenty-five mountain women became charter members and the backbone of a club. Smaller groups of eight or more, each with a secretary, were formed, and meetings were held monthly in the homes of group members. Instructions were given concerning the material most advantageously gathered for the Christmas trade, and the best time and methods of harvesting. Demonstrations showed how pruning could provide ample material for wreaths and sprays and also benefit the trees and shrubs from which the cuttings

were made. Thus has this unique club of mountain women developed under Mrs. Speed's direction and stimulus. Each year, just before the Christmas holidays, there is a sort of grand rally in which many matters of high importance are put on the round table, so to speak. Chief among these is the observance of property rights. For years the mountaineers have been accustomed to "taking their greens where they found them" with little regard for ownership, but this practice Mrs. Speed has attacked with characteristic energy and resourcefulness. Further, she has instilled the idea of planting mountain lands for the Christmas trade and she foresees in a few years many acres of now abandoned and worthless land growing seedlings for future Christmas trees.

To save the valuable Christmas greens such as rhododendron, azalea, mountain laurel, dogwood, holly, white pine and hemlock, the mountain women have been taught by Mrs. Speed to include in their Christmas collections rose apples, weeds which they color beautifully, galax, black pine and other common conifers. Delicately constructed corsages form attractive additions to the holiday display.

In the matter of marketing for her mountain friends, she has secured showroom space in Asheville, where tables are arranged and the greens properly classified, priced and tagged with labels assuring all buyers that they are not getting their decorations at the cost of permanent damage to the forests. Those who sell on the street also use labels to indicate properly harvested

greens. In the direction of marketing, however, Mrs. Speed is working to confine, with the help of the City, all street sales to material which has been gathered in accordance with approved methods of conservation practice.

Thus are the picturesque mountain folk of the Southern Appalachians coming to know and appreciate the real value of forest conservation—and much to their own benefit. Though trees are her chief interest, Mrs. Speed has broadened her activity to mountain gardens—both of the flower and vegetable variety. But most of all she is opening the hearts

(Continuing on page 667)



The Lady Samaritan—Mrs. U. Gartin Speed, of Biltmore Forest, North Carolina.



A "conservation wreath" made by the mountain folk under Mrs. Speed's direction. It is made of carefully selected and harvested evergreens native to the Southern Appalachian Mountain country.



"A fine ram kept watch on a rocky outcrop far above."

## MEETING THE WILD LIFE OF DENALI

By JOSEPH S. DIXON

Photographs by the Author

NOT SO VERY long ago, after discoursing at some length about my work as a field naturalist, I was approached by an elderly lady whose imagination had been admirably alive.

"But what about the beasts of the wild?" she asked, apparently alarmed over my chances of survival. "Aren't you in constant danger of your life?"

I assured her, somewhat dramatically, I am afraid, that her wild beasts were the lure that drew me beyond the horizon, that they were, so to speak, right "down my alley," and that if my life was to be snuffed out on one of my pilgrimages into the wilderness country it would be from starvation, or thirst, or freezing, or from natural causes.

Still, in the warmth of my den, I found myself reviewing encounters, or, perhaps, I should say incidents, in which the lady's wild beasts figured rather strongly, and before I knew it I was fingering my diary of the summer's expedition into the great wilderness of Denali, commonly called Mount McKinley, on the northern slopes of the Alaska Range. There had been a number of encounters, or incidents, on this expedition and I wanted to review them first hand—and then enjoy a good night's sleep.

Almost hastily, I fear, I turned the pages until—

"The past winter has seen one of the heaviest snowfalls ever recorded for this region. This has made the struggle for existence more deadly than usual, and, as a result, ani-

mal populations have been reduced to a minimum. Although the date is June 6, it has been snowing most of the day and the flats along the Savage River are still covered with five feet of hard-packed snow. Willows have just begun to leaf out in the lowlands, but both alder and willows are still bare on the uplands. Mount McKinley and even the foot-hills of the main Alaskan Range are still covered with a deep mantle of solid white.

"In going up a steep snowslide the other day, I came face to face with a large male wolverine. We both were taken by surprise. The big black wolverine stood straight up, like a huge weasel, on his broad plantigrade hind feet in order to get a better view of this strange animal which barred his way. He was not in the habit of yielding the right-of-way to any mammal except the huge Alaska brown and grizzly bears, so he stood his ground and growled menacingly.

"I have always had a secret desire to meet a wolverine face to face on his native heath, but as I gazed into those unflinching black eyes thirty feet distant I suddenly realized that I was unarmed, and for a time I was not at all sure whether the wolverine or I was going to do the running. However, I stood the suspense longer than he did, and just as I swung the camera into action he turned and leaped like a big weasel down the snowslide past me. I gave him all the road, and if there had been a crack in the rock wall I surely would have crawled into it and 'pulled the hole in after me.'

"Another morning I came unexpectedly upon a large female Alaska grizzly that was crossing from one range of hills to another. She stood and eyed me suspiciously a moment, and then started off. I followed with the movie camera, hoping to 'get' her before she reached a nearby strip of timber. I had only gone a few yards when the bear, seeing that she was followed, stopped, and, to my dismay, started back towards me, evidently curious as to the creature that had the audacity to follow her. A moment before I had been worrying as to whether I would be able to get close enough to this grizzly. Now my anxiety was whether I would be able to keep away. I made a quick detour to one side so that the wind would carry the human scent to the bear's keen nose. This caused her to stop a moment, and I took advan-

double window and crawled into our cabin. We were away at the time and I will always regret not being present to record the episode with the movie camera.

"Today, I discovered the 'maternity ward' of the mountain sheep in a deep rocky gorge in Savage River Canyon. Here the whole mountain side dropped off in a series of rocky cliffs that were honey-combed with potholes and small caves. The cliffs faced south and west so they were relatively warm and sheltered from the icy winds that sweep through the canyon. Unobserved by the sheep, I crept up on a sheltered ledge and for more than an hour watched the ewes nursing and taking care of their newly-born lambs. One ewe fed close to the base of a protecting cliff, keeping an anxious eye on her day-old lamb that staggered about making crude at-



"Although the date is June 6, the foothills of the main Alaskan Range are still covered with a deep mantle of solid white."

tage of the opportunity to beat a hasty retreat. This was one time I didn't stop to take pictures. Investigation later showed that this female bear had cached her small cub in a thicket nearby, and I was fortunate to have gotten off so easily.

"Another time when we were camped out in the park at Igloo Creek, after the weekly batch of soiled clothes had been washed and hung out on the line, we decided to try to photograph a pair of grizzly bears that had been seen digging out ground squirrels up in Sable Pass. That afternoon, while we were away, a grizzly came to our camp and tore the recently washed clothes off the line. He then proceeded to wipe his dirty feet on Mrs. Dixon's clean bath towels, and was standing behind our cabin waiting for us when we returned. A few weeks later, a grizzly smashed through a

tempts to gambol. As I watched, a golden eagle soared swiftly up the canyon, and instantly the lamb, at a warning signal from its mother, ducked under a shelving rock at the base of the cliff. The lamb crouched trembling until its mother went over and laid down, keeping her shivering offspring safely hidden behind her own body. So well was the lamb concealed by the rock above and his mother's body in front that unless I had seen the lamb run to this hiding place I would never have detected its presence there. Seven other lambs were seen, but all kept close to their mothers and to the sheltering cliffs while a fine ram kept watch on a rocky outcrop far above them.

"One of our strangest experiences was that of nearly being walked upon by an old bull (Continuing on page 672)



"Jackie"

# BOY LOST!

The Epic Hunt for Jackie Strong in  
An Oregon Mountain Wilderness

By HERBERT S. LAMPMAN

steps at first impatiently and then frantically; but a full hour's search brought nothing, not even the tracks left by the wanderer.

The point where Jackie left the trail was typical of Oregon hill country. It was a jungle of huckleberry brush and stunted fir trees struggling upward through the gloom of the mature forest. Within a space of ten minutes, he was hopelessly lost. The canyons and ridges seemed interminable, and the maze of undergrowth an herba-

A MOUNTAIN night was seeping into the dusky avenues of the forest when Jackie Strong and his two brothers left the laughing riffles of Zig Zag River to return to Government Camp. Creels were heavy with cutthroat trout and the slim legs of the seven-year-old Jackie were wet and tired with a weariness that was pleasant. He attempted a manly stride to keep pace with his older brothers; but try as he might, the steep trail tugged at his heels like a tether and his young muscles burned with fatigue. Besides, there were so many things to arrest the attention of a boy. Here a newt sprawled incongruously across the trail, his orange belly flaming oddly in the dusk, and there was a clump of manzanita which was almost certain to bear sugary fruit long since crystallized by the hot sun.

The date was August 12th, 1926, and the wind, hot and dry with the breath of summer, brought a dampness to Jackie's brow as it rustled and whispered through the trees. The trail twisted through the Douglas firs of the Mount Hood National Forest of Oregon. At the camp where the highway curls up the flank of the southwest slopes of the Cascades, his parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Strong, awaited the arrival of the three sons.

Darkness had blackened the white flanks of the peak when the two elder brothers came running into camp. They were breathless. Jackie, they said, was lost—he had strayed from the trail as he lagged behind them—they had been unable to find him. Thus began one of the most epic manhunts in the history of Oregon; the search for a seven-year-old boy lost amid hundreds of square miles of mountain forest. The story was to fill the front pages of newspapers all over America during the three days of the search.

\* \* \* \* \*

Perhaps it was the amethyst flash of a stellar jay or the thunder of a flushed grouse which lured him from the curving trail. Jackie doesn't remember. Anyway, he turned and plunged into the tangle of brush beside the path and was lost to sight. His brothers continued along the route for several minutes before one of them turned to urge the child to a faster pace. He was gone. They retraced their



Within a space of ten minutes after he left the trail Jackie was hopelessly lost in the big timber typical of that part of Oregon.

ceous labyrinth. Still fear did not come to him, and he forced his way through the stuff, climbing ever upward towards the mountain which was hidden from view. Night fell suddenly with that swiftness peculiar to the mountains. Clad only in light clothing, the boy curled himself about the rough feet of a great fir and prepared to spend the night. A yellow moon crept across the blackness as he slept.

\* \* \* \*

Meanwhile, at Government Camp, a searching party was rapidly forming.

With lanterns commanded from nearby ranches, more than a score of persons awaited the signal to start. They searched all through the night, calling and whistling, but no answering call came to them from the silent forest. Jackie's father was with them while his mother waited at the highway.

Dawn fell upon a tired searching party, while the same gray light found Jackie up and bound for the voice of a creek far away in a canyon below him. After more than an hour, he reached the water, washed and slaked his thirst. This done, he cast about him for food.

Below him, a backwash from an eddy probed into the bank, and in this he could see several fingerling trout. He inspected the pool and the fish for several minutes with the critical eyes of an embryo woodsmen before he procured a fan of huckleberry brush. This he used as a net, and after more than an hour's effort, he finally managed to corral two trout in the shallows where he could retrieve them with his hands. These he ate raw with all the relish of a troglodyte, squatting on the bank with his small form outlined against a white rapids. The first day passed with Jackie still trailing unconsciously upwards toward the mountain with the same instinct which prompts an insect to creep up an incline instead of downward.

\* \* \* \*

The searching party, by this time, had been augmented by an additional force which brought the total number to more

than fifty persons. Throughout the entire first day, they combed the hills adjacent to the point where Jackie was last seen; but no trace of the lost boy was found. The impenetrable thickets and the sullen forest enclosed him like a cloak and not even a broken twig betrayed his going.

Night fell on the first day to find Jackie well on his way across the morain, stumbling across the jagged lava. His trail was easily found here on the second day and even the

rounded couch in the asphodel or squaw grass where he had laid his body was discernible to the trackers. The trail of small footprints led from the waving grass back again to the edge of the forest where it was lost again. Night covered the second day and still the searchers had not found the boy. A thin gray rain ushered in the third day and the wind was cold as it rustled from the chill cheeks of the mountain. There was a feeling of suspense in the air of the gray morning of this day when the searching party met at Government Camp. It now numbered more than an hundred persons, led by a group of amateur mountaineers known as the Crag Rats. A pack of flop-eared blood hounds sniffed and grumbled on their leashes. Men stood about in silent groups. Mrs. Strong moved nervously among the figures of the mist drenched group. She was crying.

\* \* \* \*

Jackie had arisen to find the world damp and weeping with the early rain. The berries, which he found along the river bank, were dripping and jewel-like and their acid taste was cut by the sweetness of the mist. He was scarce two miles from the timberline.

His breakfast completed, he set out for the gray flanks of the mountain which he could see above him through the tapestry of the forest roof. After more than two hours' scrambling, he finally broke out upon the morain. The sharp lava cut his soft boots as he forced his way upward. He was trying, as he afterward explained, to reach a height from where he could see the highway.



Bravely, and with little fear, the seven-year-old had trudged on, lost for three days in the wild mountain forest. It was near a spot like this on the Mount Hood morain that he was finally found.

Long before Jackie had started from his bed, the searching party had left Government Camp. They proceeded to the point where the lad had left the trail two days before. Here the hounds took up the trail with a bellowing that awakened echoes from each stern crest. They proceeded at breakneck pace until they reached the river where the trail was obliterated beneath the dancing water. The dogs raced up and down both banks, yelping excitedly, but the trail was lost. Here the party split into three groups; one going on to the forest, another along the river, and the third, led by the Crag Rats, to the morain.

\* \* \* \* \*

Jackie, meanwhile, continued up the slope of the mountain. Here and there he found a marmot. Vegetation, aside from an occasional twisted wort, was sparse. It grew colder as he clambered steadily upward. Fitful gusts of rain whipped at his small body and his hands were blue with cold.

Higher and higher he climbed until his lungs were burning in the rarified atmosphere. Not until he reached the lower tip of the great Sandy Glacier did he halt to rest and here he turned to inspect the country which was unrolled below him like a giant contour map. The ridges flowed away from him like congealed waves of jade, those on the horizon turning to turquoise in the fine rain.

\* \* \* \* \*

Stumbling through the brush, the searching party which

had turned up to the morain, at last came across the boy's trail. The hounds broke into a glad baying as they started off and upward. When the group, led by the dogs, broke out of the timber belt and onto the tumbled waste of bare mountain, they saw the boy above them—a speck of darkness on a gigantic pedestal of pumice. They scrambled madly upward. The dogs yelped, the men panted hoarsely.

He was standing upright when they reached him. A little smile played across his young mouth—a bashfully bold smile. He was wet and cold and hungry; but men do not speak of such things. Besides Kipling's Mowgli never complained when his Indian jungles were weeping beneath a tropical rain and the hunting was not good, and the child, Mowgli, was a man too.

"Are you all right?"—they were breathlessly anxious.

There was a note of contempt in his small voice as he answered in the affirmative. He had been all right all the time, he told them. He would have gotten out all right by another morning. He found food in the river and on the mountain.

"Hundreds of people have been searching for you," they told him.

"Huh," he answered contemptuously, "I was all right."

They filed slowly down the mountain to the camp where his mother waited. The fine rain drifted against them.

## Conservation Sidelights on Reorganization

*(Continued from page 640)*

more efficient administration?

**Question Two:** It is the purpose of the Federal Government to perpetuate trees as growing plants for the welfare of agriculture, industry, and all the nation. Trees are plants whether they yield apples or wood. They are a soil crop. There are more acres of tree land on American farms than acres of any other crop—more, in fact, than in all the National Forests. The perpetuation and improvement of trees and woodlots and forests depends, in the long run, upon man's knowledge of their growth requirements; their services to the nation depend upon his ability to fit them into the land economy of American agriculture and American land use. It is now proposed to root certain trees out of the department that is home for plants and where they are by nature members of the great family of plants and to assign their culture and conservation to a separate department. Upon what grounds?

**Question Three:** The National Forests are America's greatest conservation achievement. They are the property of all the people, dedicated to the growing of trees and the protection of water sources. Each forest is a community of inter-related resources—soil, water, trees, forage plants, flowers, birds, animals, and scenery. They are for the use of all the people and it is the duty of the Federal Government to develop and perpetuate their resources so that they will best meet the social and economic needs of the nation in years to come. To fulfill that obligation calls for the application of the highest type of biological science applied to soil productivity and coordinated land use. It is now proposed to remove these forests from the department dedicated to the working out of these problems and thus divorce them from their fellow trees on 150,000,000 acres of farm woodlots. Upon what grounds?

**Question Four:** It is the purpose of the Federal Government to promote the propagation and increase of fish life in our coastal and inland waters for the benefit of industry to provide food and recreation for all the people. It is well recognized that the fish life of our streams cannot

be perpetuated by merely dumping carloads of fishfry or fingerlings in the water. This will be a waste of time and money unless the soils along our streams and at the headwaters of our streams are maintained in conditions of growth and soil cover that will supply the food, water conditions, and stream environment required by different species. Upon what grounds are the fishes kept separate from the source of knowledge essential to their perpetuation?

**Question Five:** The major purpose of the Department of Agriculture is the study of plant and animal life and the application of biological science to land productivity and use. It is now proposed to rend asunder the society of plant and animal life and the government's source of fundamental sciences pertaining to them and to assign the study and conservation of certain plants and certain animals to another department. This is a clear division of major purpose—a tearing down of one department to build another. Upon what sound grounds of governmental efficiency or expected conservation accomplishment can such action be justified?

These and many more pointed questions may pop out of the conservation box when the administration's reorganization plan is placed in the Congressional arena in early December, depending upon what principles—or lack of principles—guide the federal reorganizers in grouping conservation agencies. President Hoover has stressed the principle of major purpose but has said in reference to conservation that concentration of all bureaus is more important than the department in which they are placed. Such conservation organizations as the Izaak Walton League of America, the American Game Association, the National Grange, The American Forestry Association, the American Farm Bureau, and the Society of American Foresters stand on a principle that inevitably concentrates organic conservation in the Department of Agriculture where it began and where its main body still remains. In the meantime, reorganization goes on behind closed doors. What will the outcome be?



## EDITORIAL

### Nature's Forgotten Men

To the layman it may seem grotesque and even flippant at a time when millions of human beings are without work and adequate food to point out that man's political and business errors have likewise brought on a depression among countless millions of creatures lower in the scale of life than man. But there is good justification for the reference because the situation in this lower civilization is a highly important factor in man's problems of life today. These humble creatures, known intimately only to biologists, are the vital organisms of nature's creative pulse. They have suffered and are suffering from the acts not of one man or of one political party or of one business policy, but from man's business practices en masse that are obstructing them in the performance of their work in keeping nature productive. As a result mankind is burdened with heavier taxes and myriad other costs that he little appreciates or knows how to deal with in the business of life or the life of business.

American business has programs and standards of efficiency which are made known through education and organized propaganda. That nature also has a program and standards of performance is not, however, so well known. Its most important standard of work is called the cycle of matter — the process by which nature keeps alive and productive. It is a phenomena in cosmic physiology somewhat similar to that chain of actions which in human physiology results from the eating of food. The creative efficiency of the process depends upon the co-ordinated action of living organisms which, though humble forms of life, are tremendously important co-workers of agriculture and of business. They work only in the presence of water and they work best only when water is in correct quantity and quality. When their factories are shattered and their cooperation dislocated by man's destructive business methods, the cycle of matter stops or works so badly that nature becomes starved and hardened and man's problems likewise become hardened. How much simpler are man's problems in a land where nature is bountifully productive than in a land of deserts or canyons where nature's cooperation is lacking?

In an earlier generation the major force of business progress was deemed to be a competition expressed by the term "survival of the fittest." Today modern America regards co-operation as of greater importance. It is wont to cite competition between labor and capital or between business and

politics as responsible for some of its troubles. The average business man, however, does not yet recognize the competition that is going on between American business practice today and nature's basic business. What business leader has arisen to point a finger to any proposed study for the elucidation of the causes and phases of the present economic depression as it relates to man's business and nature's business? Such studies as have been undertaken have been with varied degrees of adequacy and purpose by biologists who are not economists, by economists who are not biologists, or by engineers who are neither. And the conclusions are made to serve the greed of business, the expediency of the dollar, and the abuse of nature.

What appears still lacking is vision and consideration of the ultimate biological background of the interdependence of man and nature. This background may appear vague or academic in this era of so-called business efficiency and machine production, because it consists of so many aspects that are antagonistic to present day business philosophy and business practice. The most serious biological blunder of American business is perhaps its failure to face the fact that water, soil, and atmosphere are nature's raw materials, the correct use of which is fundamental to the maintenance of human life and the permanent prosperity of American business.

Everywhere throughout our country business looks with closed eyes upon polluted streams and waterways, upon fertile soil washing to the sea, upon oil and other wastes dumped into nature's lap, upon devastated lands, upon dried up lakes, and lowered water tables, and everywhere business struggles to adjust its life to the pyramiding costs resulting. And in this struggle these costs by virtue of our political organization are pushed on to another's business, to the farmer, to all tax payers.

As a continent we have forgotten in our incontinent pursuit of the dollar the necessity of maintaining the functional activities of those lower plants and animals which transform from non-living into living material the substance of nature and which convert it into human prosperity. These past few months we have heard much about the forgotten man. Are not the real forgotten men those living organisms of humble plants and animals whose industry has been disrupted and shattered by American business standards? They, too, are clamoring for working conditions that will permit them to carry their share of human responsibility by providing American business in orderly abundance the cooperation of nature.

# Conservation Leaders in Congress



Representative Don B. Colton, of Utah, School-teacher and Rancher, Has Become Protector of the Public Domain

By LAURA THORNBOROUGH

REPRESENTATIVE DON B. COLTON, of Utah, might well be called the co-guardian of 190,000,000 acres of vacant public lands. For a number of years he was chairman of the important Public Lands Committee, and is now the ranking Republican member, but always he has been a sincere worker for constructive legislation governing the Public Domain. He has been particularly active for legislation which would prevent overgrazing and soil deterioration of these lands. Nor has his interest dwarfed his efforts for other conservation problems. He is the author of a resolution to establish a National Conservation Week in order that the American people may realize that conservation of the natural resources and their proper use constitute the fundamental problem which underlies almost every other problem of national life.

Conservationists say that Mr. Colton, since coming to Congress, has had a difficult task representing the opposing interests in his large and scattered district, which embraces twenty-five counties. There are cattlemen and sheepmen, big ranchmen and small farmers. Their interests frequently clash and are sometimes selfish. To please all has been impossible, but even Mr. Colton's political enemies say that he has been open-minded and fair with all. His friends say that he has worked sincerely for the general good and for the proper administration of the Public Domain throughout his public career, first as a member of the State legislature, then as receiver of the United States Land Office at Vernal, Utah, and since 1921 as Representative in Congress.

The first impression on meeting Mr. Colton is of alertness and of a deep, abiding interest in people and things. The former Utah schoolteacher has had a picturesque career. A political accident changed his viewpoint and colored his entire future. How he happened to get into politics and carve a career as a constructive conservationist reads like a story book tale.

To begin at the beginning, Don B. Colton was born in Juab County, Utah, in 1876, educated in the public schools of Uintah County and at the University at Provo. His first job was that of teaching school. His ambition did not run to politics; rather he wanted to be a rancher. So, when one day he received a call from a local politician asking permission to put his name on the ticket as representative from the

county to the State legislature, he was quite frank. "I have no desire to enter politics," he informed his caller.

The politician laughed. "Don't let that worry you — a Republican has never been elected from this county. We merely want to use the name on the ticket of some likely young fellow with no political enemies."

After consultation with the president of the school board, to whom the situation was explained, the name Don B. Colton appeared on the ballot. Then to the surprise of everyone the young teacher with no political enemies was elected. That incident changed his entire career.

While in the State legislature Mr. Colton was a member of the Judiciary Committee and became so interested in law that he entered the University of Michigan, receiving his L.L. B. degree in 1905. He was then appointed receiver of the United States Land Office at Vernal, a position which he held for eight years. During this time Mr. Colton became vitally interested in public land activities.

His interest in conservation, however, goes back to his college days, when Theodore Roosevelt was President. The great "T. R." so fired the imagination of the young student that he became a staunch advocate of conservation.

His experience in the Land Office and as a sheepman convinced him of the necessity of regulating grazing on the Public Domain. He saw vacant public lands denuded by unregulated grazing; he saw the resulting devastating floods. He saw National Forests established, the grazing on them regulated, and the preservation and rehabilitation of forest grazing lands.

"The Public Domain, for a long time, was ample for all bona fide settlers," Mr. Colton explained. "It was the practice of homesteaders and other stockmen to use the public lands to graze their herds in winter. The National Forests furnished them range during the summer.

"But when the nomads came in with their small flocks of goats and sheep, they grazed them all year round on the Public Domain. There was, and still is, no one to tell them they cannot. The resulting destruction from overgrazing has been pitiful and deplorable.

"The Forest Service," Mr. Colton continued, "has done much to convince stock growers that proper conservation is essential. It has shown conclusively that not only can more

stock be fed on regulated forage lands but that the land itself is saved from erosion and destructive floods.

"When I came to Congress in 1921, I at once began a movement for regulated grazing. At first I met with opposition from the stockmen of my own State, but in the past eight years I have seen their attitude change from open hostility to approval of some form of regulation. Today I have letters from practically every livestock organization in Utah endorsing a bill which would stop overgrazing and soil deterioration on the Public Domain."

There have been numerous bills before Congress during the past eight years relating to the regulation of grazing resources. Some are general in their nature, some relate to individual states and others to limited areas. H. R. Bill 11816, commonly called the Colton Bill, is a composite of all of these bills and the first to have the support of both the Department of the Interior and the Department of Agriculture. Incidentally it is the first to have written in its title that it is a bill "to stop injury to the public grazing lands."

If the Colton Bill, or a similar bill fails of enactment, then the hundred or more lesser bills referring to specific areas must be acted upon if regulation on these now unregulated areas is to be secured.

When asked the salient features of his bill, Mr. Colton hastened to say that Congressman Burton L. French, of Idaho, had introduced a bill along the same line and that the present bill includes provisions of the French Bill and the Leavitt Bill. Other provisions have been worked out by officials of the Forest Service and the Public Land Office, he said. "If any other bill can be worked out to take care of the grazing situation in the West," he said, "I am willing to go along with that bill. Some sort of grazing control is absolutely necessary."

In the hearings before the House Committee on Public Lands it was brought out that there is a direct relationship between overgrazing and destructive floods, and that stockmen are interested in producing forage and in the preservation of their lands, but solely for their grazing value and not as a protection to water storage. It was further shown that the people of the West need to become water-minded, that public lands should be kept permanently useful for the public, and that grazing does not recognize state boundaries.

Mr. Colton, one of the best informed men in Congress on the subject of the Public Domain, is on record as favoring federal rather than state control of the public lands because "under federal control important watersheds could be readily protected; the wild life resources could be managed un-

der a more stable policy; vegetation could be restored or maintained, and there could be intelligent group management of range and livestock. States often lack stable policies because of frequent changes in administration, and under private control protection of the watershed and of wild life resources are largely ignored."

If Mr. Colton's eloquence and earnest convictions have any weight in Congress, some bill to conserve the public grazing lands will be reported out of the Committee on Public Lands and passed at this session of Congress. He sincerely believes that the passage of such a bill would be an economy measure, would save the people money, and also save their land.

Mr. Colton is largely responsible for another measure which has been a money-saver and a revenue-producer for some of the western states. When asked about it Mr. Colton explained: "You know, of course, that in parcelling out the

public lands the Federal Government gave two to four sections in each township for the benefit of the public school system. When I first came to Congress there was much controversy between the government and some of the states regarding these lands. The bill I helped get through Congress granted the states titles to these lands with the minerals, provided they leased instead of sold

the mineral rights, the proceeds to go to the school fund. As a result the school funds have a definite source of income and the states have been greatly benefited. New Mexico, for instance, is the richer by approximately \$8,000,000, received from leased grazing lands and royalties from oil lands. School funds have been established or augmented. But this is but one example as all of the western states have profited by this conservation measure."

That a man with such a lively and keen interest in conservation should have some very definite ideas about the much discussed "depression" was to be expected.

"We must find jobs for those who want and need them," he said thoughtfully. "One way to get more jobs is for each employed man and woman to work fewer hours. This means more leisure, an opportunity for the average man to take more interest in his home and home-building."

"With more leisure, the public lands will become places of refuge. Millions will have time to get back to Nature, to fish, to camp, to hike, to hunt. We'll need more game preserves, more parks, more forests and proper regulation. I sincerely believe that out of this mis-called period of depression will come several great benefits."



When Representative Colton came to Congress in 1921 it was to fight for the Public Domain. He had seen these public lands denuded by unregulated grazing and devastated by resulting floods, and his bill to curb this destruction has won the favor of many stockmen as well as the Departments of Agriculture and Interior.



A magnificent study of motion, in photography, supplied by a tree.

FOR the past two years AMERICAN FORESTS has endeavored to reveal some of the secrets to successful photography. Recognized specialists in many phases of outdoor photography have been called upon to share their knowledge and experience with the novice, the amateur who finds a camera an important attribute to the joys of the outdoors. These experts have discussed methods of photographing snow and snow scenes, wild flowers, mountains and mountain peaks. They have conducted camera excursions into the spring woods, the autumn woods, into the domain of wild life. They have delved into the mystery of composition, of lighting, of exposure, of equipment.

What has been achieved? The answer to this will be left to the judgment of the readers. Throughout 1933 there will appear monthly in AMERICAN FORESTS reproductions of photographs made by the followers of this department—not accidental or chance pictures, but unusual results obtained through application of certain knowledge gained through these monthly discussions by the experts. While these prize pictures are being reproduced the monthly lessons will be discontinued, but the service to the amateurs will be maintained through the medium of questions and answers.

# THROUGH THE LENS

## THE TREE AND ART IN PHOTOGRAPHY

Photographs by T. HORYDCZAK

Recently a reader brought up a subject of unusual interest. "I have been immensely benefited," he wrote, "by the monthly lessons in photography, and would consider my education complete with a brief discussion on the tree and art in photography."

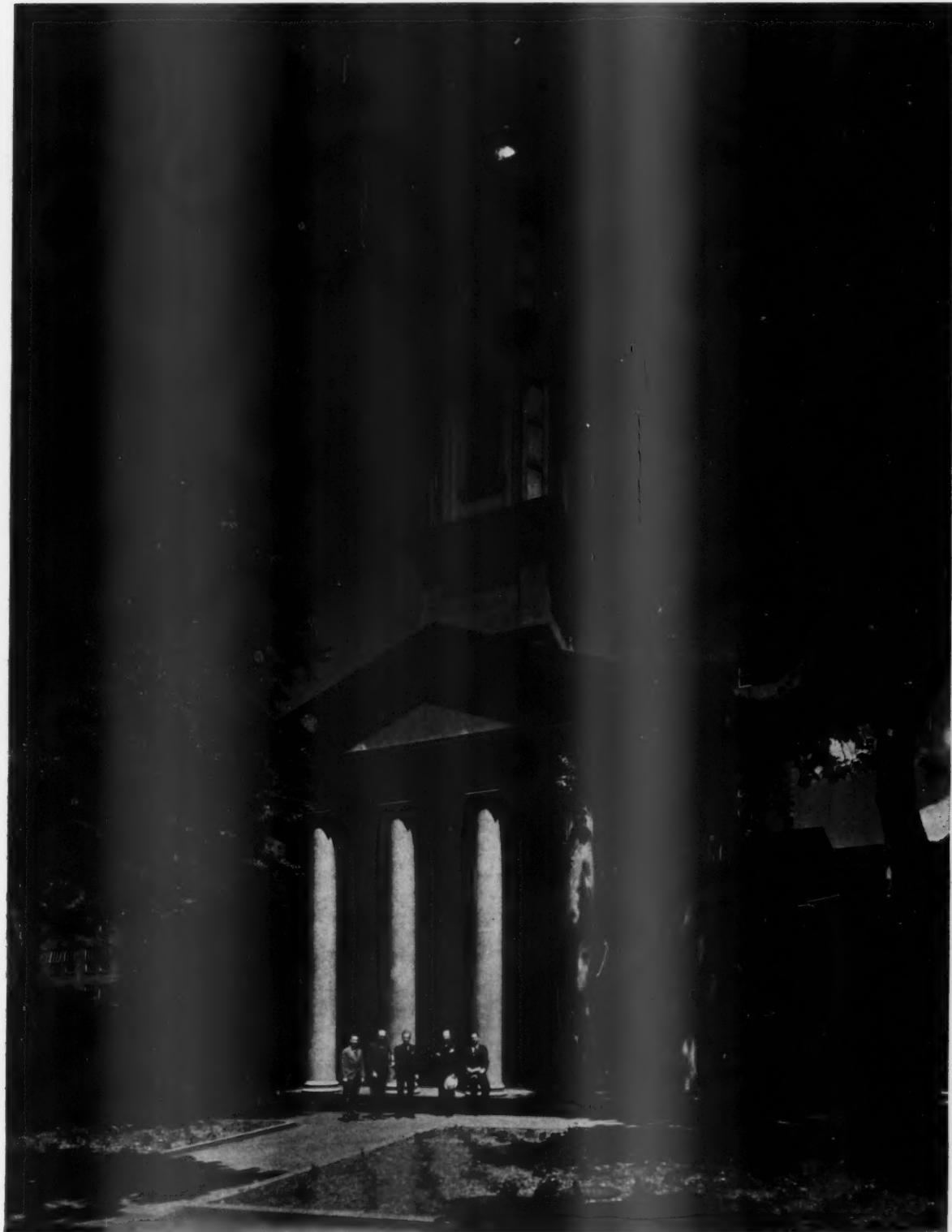
Feeling that many readers are inclined the same way, one of the outstanding camera artists in the country was asked to give his views. He is T. Horydczak, who for the past several years has been engaged in recording pictorially the beauty of the National Capital and historic colonial Virginia. From the standpoint of art his collection is perhaps unequalled.

"To achieve real art in photography," said Mr. Horydczak, "one must first achieve a sense of motion, of rhythm. A straight line is dead and pictorially unattractive. To give it motion is to give it life and, of course, art."

"Thus when straight lines predominate, and they do in the majority of photographic subjects, motion, or life, must be provided. Nothing serves so well in providing this motion as trees, or branches of trees, or sometimes a mere twig. I call their use decorating."

"Suppose we consider something that will be very near to the hearts of millions of Americans late this month—the Christmas tree. When the bare tree is first erected on its stand it appears cold, lifeless. But we require life in our Christmas trees, motion, rhythm, so we set in to decorate, to dress up, to make it artistic. We succeed to varying degrees, depending on our sense of motion, our eye for beauty.

"Apply the same thing to a building. Architecturally it is pleasing to the eye, but it is composed of straight lines. To photograph it for detail of (Continuing on page 672)



Picturesque old St. John's Church in the National Capital. Here the camera artist has achieved a beautiful effect through the use of "tree decoration." The leaves pick up the highlights as mass without detail, while at the same time framing the central object to draw and hold attention.

# A FOREST PAGE FOR BOYS AND GIRLS

Conducted by WAKELIN MCNEEL



## CHRISTMAS REFLECTIONS

"Upon whose bosom  
Snow has lain."

LONG BEFORE the birth of the Babe at Bethlehem, the peoples of the Northlands of Europe celebrated Yule-tide. They did it for somewhat the same reason we celebrate the coming of Christ. And they did it with trees and branches of trees. ¶ There was promise of better times ahead. Winter was a hardship, accompanied with deprivation and suffering, and so at the solstice, the wheeling of the sun, when Old Sol turned toward them again and sent his kindlier rays, they met and rejoiced together. The Yule log was kindled, sprigs of holly and evergreen were sent to the absent ones, and boughs of evergreen were hung in the homes and temples to provide shelter for the poor woodland spirits whom they thought were having a sorry time of it. When the glad tidings of the coming of the Christ-child spread abroad, these same tokens of gladness, the holly and evergreen, were used as symbols of rejoicing. And so Yule-tide and Christmas became intertwined in use and meaning, and trees and Christmas are inseparable in our thoughts and affections. ¶ In parts of northern Europe the holly is called the Christ-thorn. The leaves and thorns suggest Christ's crown and the red berries His blood. In the Holy Land the tree grows low and bushy and legend tells us that the holly was the burning bush from which God revealed Himself to Moses. It has other characteristics that inspire reverence. No animal or insect feeds upon holly and nature has provided an air tight case in a thin waxy skin to protect the leaves from heat, cold and moisture, keeping them green for a long time. Birds feed upon the red berries that hang on the trees long into the winter. ¶ Inseparably linked with Christmas is another plant of strange nature. It

is re-  
lated that  
Martin Luther  
tried to describe  
to his wife and child-  
ren the beauty of snow be-  
decked evergreens un-  
der a sky glittering with  
stars. But failing in his  
attempt, went out into the garden,  
cut a fir tree, dragged it into the  
room, placed candles on it  
and lighted them. During the six-  
teenth century the candle-lighted fir  
tree appeared in Strassburg. For two hun-  
dred years the people living along the Rhine  
used it as a joy giver at the glad season  
and about the beginning of the nineteenth cen-  
tury the custom spread throughout all the Christian  
world. So the evergreen became inseparably linked with  
Christ-  
mas, and  
furnishes  
the hearty  
greeting—  
"may you be  
like the fir  
tree, evergreen  
and always growing."

becomes important because of the sentiment with which tradition has surrounded it. Can you guess its name? ¶ Once upon a time it was a tree, so legends relate. This was until its wood was used for the cross of Christ when it shrank to its present shameful proportions. The monks of old called it "wood of the cross" and swallowed bits of it, or drank the water in which it was steeped, or wore sprigs of it about their necks to ward off witches, fits, poison and disease. In old Saxon it was called "mistle-tan" which means "different twig" because it differs from the branch of the tree to which it attaches itself. But its name comes from the Greek meaning "tree thief" which describes very well its nature. ¶ It is a parasitical plant feeding upon the crude sap of the tree to which it attaches itself. Its main virtue in decoration are its berries, which are pearly white. It takes years before the plant gets large enough to injure the trees, but eventually the tiny roots make their way into the very heart and its effect is apparent in deformity and retarded growth. By this time you know the plant to be the mistletoe. ¶ Strange the number of magic powers that can be attributed to a simple plant. The pagans claimed it was thrown down from the upper world and the finder was looked upon with special favor by the gods. In Germany if you carry a bit of mistletoe into an old house, the ghosts will appear and answer any questions you may ask. If you carry out at Christmas the custom of kissing beneath the mistletoe, possibly you might enjoy it more if you knew the origin. It is an old Norse legend. Freya loved her son Baldur so intensely that she obtained a promise from all earthly things to guard him. But she overlooked the mistletoe, lodged in the crotch of a tree. When

Baldur engaged in sports he was invulnerable. Loki became jealous and dressing as a woman inveigled the secret from Freya. "Nothing can harm him except the mistletoe and that is so feeble it could not harm anything," said Freya. Loki went into the forest, found the stoutest twig of mistletoe he could find, and sharpened it. ¶ Soon after the gods assembled again to test the invulnerability of Baldur. Every attempt at his life was futile until Loki's sharpened twig was thrown. It pierced his breast, stretching him lifeless on the ground. But he was restored to life by the combined power of all the gods and the mistletoe then promised never to do harm to anybody so long as it did not touch the earth. That is why people hang the mistletoe in their homes and kiss one another as they pass beneath it, for it brings happiness and good fortune as long as it does not touch the earth. ¶ Homemade Christmas greeting cards are best. They really carry the message of good-will because of the effort and thought involved in the making. Attractive ones can be made easily by following the directions carefully. Secure a piece of linoleum the size desired and mount it on a block of wood. Trace the design you have chosen on a thin tracing paper. Cover the back of the design with soft white chalk, and remove the loose particles until there is a solid coating of chalk. Now you are well on your way. "The gift without the giver is bare," so the poem runs,

and in making your own gift its value is greatly enhanced. The design is ready so place the design the way you want it on the linoleum block and with a hard pencil go over all lines, thereby transferring the design. With a sharp narrow chisel cut out the outline of the design, then remove the background to a shallow depth. Your design will then stand out as an embossment. ¶ Now you are ready to make the prints. Get a tube of printer's ink or a regular blocking ink from an art store. With a small wooden roller cover the design smoothly and completely. Then put your paper carefully on the design in the position you want it. With a smooth wooden block rub the paper, exerting some pressure. The ink will come off on the paper and you have your own Christmas card. Repeat this process of printing for as many cards as you want. ¶ Use a soft paper with a rough surface. If you desire smart deckled edges to your cards, wet the edges with water, and hold a ruler where you want the edge to come, and tear off. ¶ You can do many things with linoleum block printing. If you want to make your book

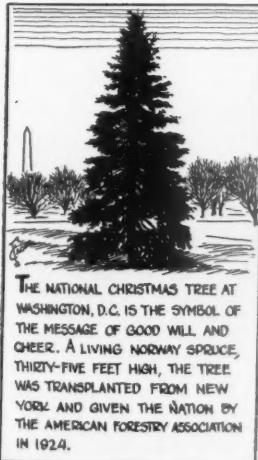
loving friends happy, contrive a clever design in linoleum and print a set of book plates. ¶ Do you know what trees contribute in the making of linoleum? Fact is, the forest contributes so abundantly to our joys and comforts, not only at Christmas time, but throughout the year, that we can say with a full heart—"Thank God for trees and Christmas."



A design for the linoleum block.

## FAMOUS TREES EVERY BOY AND GIRL SHOULD KNOW

### No. 2 --- THE NATION'S CHRISTMAS TREE



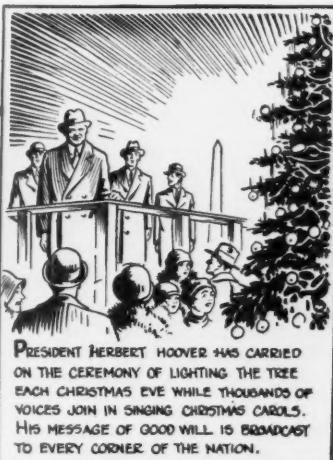
**THE NATIONAL CHRISTMAS TREE AT WASHINGTON, D.C. IS THE SYMBOL OF THE MESSAGE OF GOOD WILL AND CHEER.** A LIVING NORWAY SPRUCE, THIRTY-FIVE FEET HIGH, THE TREE WAS TRANSPLANTED FROM NEW YORK AND GIVEN THE NATION BY THE AMERICAN FORESTRY ASSOCIATION IN 1924.



**ON CHRISTMAS EVE OF THAT YEAR PRESIDENT CALVIN COOLIDGE ACCOMPANIED BY MRS. COOLIDGE AND MEMBERS OF HIS CABINET TURNED ON THE LIGHTS OF THIS GREAT TREE FOR THE FIRST TIME, DEDICATING IT TO THE NATION.**



**AS THE PRESIDENT PRESSED THE BUTTON, TURNING ON HUNDREDS OF LIGHTS, SIMILAR TREES WERE ILLUMINATED ALL OVER THE COUNTRY, AND THE CUSTOM OF PLANTING A LIVING TREE BECAME NATIONALIZED FOR USE AT CHRISTMAS TIME.**



**PRESIDENT HERBERT HOOVER HAS CARRIED ON THE CEREMONY OF LIGHTING THE TREE EACH CHRISTMAS EVE WHILE THOUSANDS OF VOICES JOIN IN SINGING CHRISTMAS CAROLS. HIS MESSAGE OF GOOD WILL IS BROADCAST TO EVERY CORNER OF THE NATION.**



In the mountains of the northwest Douglas fir attains magnificent proportions, sometimes reaching a height of over two hundred feet.

## DOUGLAS FIR

(*Pseudotsuga taxifolia* Britton)

DOUGLAS fir may be found growing throughout the Rocky Mountains, from their eastern base to the Pacific coast, and from northern Mexico and the mountains of western Texas, southern New Mexico and Arizona to British Columbia. It attains its largest size near sea-level in the coast region of southern British Columbia, Washington, Oregon and on the western foothills of the Cascade Mountains. No attempt is made in this description to distinguish between the Oregon variety and the slower growing but more hardy Douglas fir native to Colorado and the interior mountains. It is frequently called Red Fir, Oregon Pine or Douglas Spruce, but Douglas Fir is generally accepted.

Douglas fir trees attain a height of over two hundred feet with trunk diameters of ten to twelve feet, and are often characterized by a clear shaft for a third of their height. The larger trees may be from four hundred to seven hundred and fifty years old. The reddish brown bark of large mature trees is broken into oblong longitudinal plates and may be ten to twelve inches thick. The smooth thinner bark of young trees is more of the color of ashes, has resin blisters like the true firs, but thickens as the tree grows larger and becomes reddish brown.

The tree is in the nature of a botanical puzzle, for it bears strong resemblance to spruce and fir as well as to the hemlock and yew. Accordingly, the botanists went to the Greek to describe it as a "false hemlock with a yewlike leaf." It was first discovered by Dr. Archibald Menzies in 1791, on the west coast of Vancouver Island; later it was rediscovered by the Scotch traveler David Douglas, who introduced it into England in 1827. Since then it has been widely planted on the British Isles.

The soft, flattened, slightly pointed needles are one-half to one and one-half inches long and grow around the branch so as to give it a full rounded appearance. They are grooved on the upper surface, and have a white band on each side of a prominent midrib beneath. When pulled off they leave an oval scar on top of a little projection. They remain on the trees five to eight years before they fall. Frequently the dark orange red pointed terminal bud is one-fourth of an inch long, while the side buds are about half as large.

The oval cones are pendulous like those of the spruce and pine. They are an inch and a half to four and one-half inches long and mature in the first autumn from reddish pistillate flowers that grow well out on the ends of the branches. The three-lobed "Neptune's trident" is especially noticeable in the blossom stage. On the same tree are the bright red staminate or male flowers, which appear in the early spring on the under surface of the previous year's growth. The thin rounded scales of the cone are thrust over conspicuous three pointed bracts, and under each scale are two seeds, each with a single wing. The parent trees scatter these seed so effectively that they quickly take possession of burned forest areas. Trees may begin producing cones at twelve years of age, and continue with crops nearly every year.

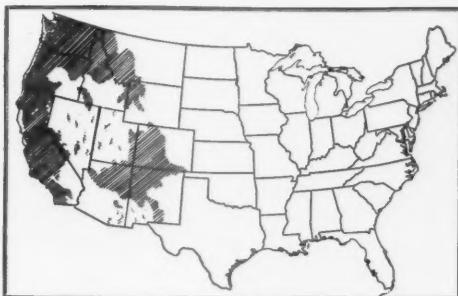
The wood is usually yellowish to light red, with a narrow band of white sapwood. It is fairly light, strong, firm and works well. Compared with other American woods it is the strongest of all in terms of weight. The

immense size of the trees permits the manufacture of timber remarkably free from knots and other defects. It is important in the lumber industry and building trade. When air dry a cubic foot weighs thirty-one pounds. It is used for all kinds of construction, railway ties, piles, etc., is resistant to decay, and can be attractively stained for interior trim. Recent estimates indicate that American forests contain 530,197,000,000 board feet of Douglas fir saw timber, of which most is in Washington, Oregon and northern California. Douglas fir is second only to Yellow Pine in volume of annual production, and the present stand comprises about one-fourth of the remaining saw timber in the United States. During 1930 a total of 6,453,043,000 board feet were cut, with the State of Washington leading with 3,826,066 feet. The bark is sometimes used as a source of tannin for tanning leather.

Douglas fir may be grown from seed under nursery conditions, and successfully transplanted to forest plantations. Under natural conditions it grows from sea level where more than 100 inches of rain falls each year, to altitudes of nearly 11,000 feet where the annual precipitation is 15 inches. In deep loam soils it develops a deep wide-spreading root system. In moist well drained soil trees will grow to a height of thirty-five feet in twenty-five years. The trees prefer northern and western exposures, but will withstand wind fairly well and endure considerable shade. The small trees are hardy and attractive for ornamental planting in the northern and northeastern states as well as in the West. Being moderately tolerant of shade, they hold their branches down to the ground unless heavily shaded.

They may be planted close together and pruned for hedges. The symmetrical young trees whose soft rich green needles hang on long after the tree is cut down are being used in increasing numbers for Christmas trees and holiday decoration.

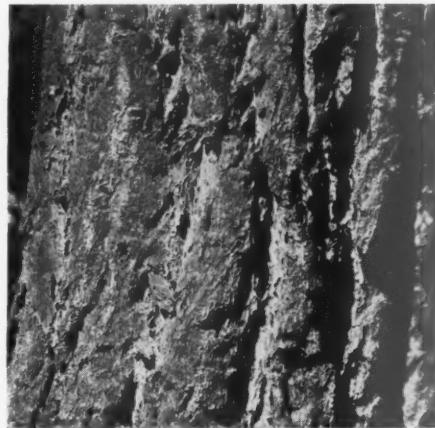
Douglas fir is particularly subject to fire damage during its early years, but as the bark grows thicker it becomes increasingly resistant. Not only does fire destroy many trees, but it also causes unfavorable soil conditions, and the fire scars furnish places where insects and fungi may enter. It may be attacked by a long list of insects, fungi and mistletoe but is little affected by most of them. The worst insect enemy is a beetle which bores between the bark and the wood, frequently killing the tree. Periodically the western hemlock looper destroys considerable merchantable timber, and eastern plantations have been threatened by a larch canker, but taken as a whole such losses are comparatively small.



Natural range of Douglas fir within the United States.



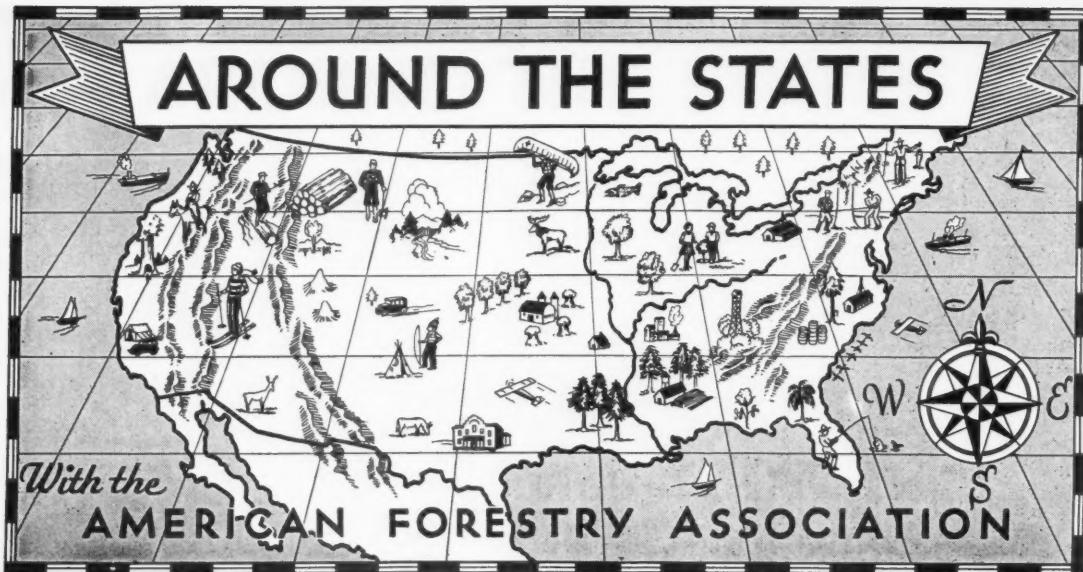
Above:—The three pointed bracts extending beyond the cone scales, the flexible bluntly pointed green needles, and dark orange red winter buds combine to help identify Douglas fir.



The reddish brown deeply fissured bark of mature trees is sometimes a foot thick.

Below:—In their youth Douglas firs are dense foliated and symmetrical. They are planted over a wide area to decorate home grounds, for windbreak purposes and for future stands of timber.





### New York Rejects Amendment to Open Forest Preserve for Recreation

A proposed amendment to the Constitution of the State of New York intended to open the State Forest Preserve for additional recreational facilities was defeated in the election of November 8, by a large vote. Sponsored by State Senator Henry E. H. Brereton and Assemblyman Fred L. Porter, and passed by the Legislatures of 1930 and 1931, the amendment would have permitted the State or any political sub-division of the State to clear away timber and construct public recreational facilities within the forest preserve.

Conservation Commissioner Henry Morgenthau, Jr., the Association for the Protection of the Adirondacks, the Adirondack Mountain Club, the Camp Fire Club of America and other conservation organizations opposed the amendment on the ground that the broad language would permit the establishment of amusement places out of keeping with the character of the preserve, and that to permit the felling and removal of timber from the state lands would open the way to grave abuses of the clause in the constitution creating the State Forest Preserves.

### Removal of Pratt Fails in California

The charges of "disloyalty and inefficiency" upon which State Forester M. B. Pratt, of California, was asked to resign his office late

in October proved groundless at a hearing before Governor Rolph and Mr. Pratt will continue in the capacity in which he has served for fifteen years. The charges against the State Forester were presented to the Governor by S. Rex Black, chairman of the State Board of Forestry, according to newspaper dispatches.

In dismissing the case the Governor said: "I have found that charges of disloyalty and inefficiency against Pratt were unfounded. There is no need for further action."

The charge of disloyalty against Mr. Pratt

### Association of State Foresters Hold Annual Meeting in New Jersey

The Association of State Foresters, at their annual meeting in New Jersey, October 17, 18 and 19, unanimously urged that the forestry work of the government should be retained under the department allied with agriculture, in any reorganization of governmental activities.

W. G. Howard, Superintendent of Lands and Forests of New York State, succeeds Ben E. Bush, Idaho State Forester, as President of the Association. Other officers elected include G. C. Joy of Washington, Vice President. G. R. Phillips, of Oklahoma, who succeeds R. F. Wilcox, of Indiana, as Secretary-Treasurer. The elected officers, together with Page S. Bunker, of Alabama, and G. M. Conzett, of Minnesota, constitute the Executive Committee.

Under the guidance of State Forester C. P. Wilber, of New Jersey, the foresters viewed the forest protection system and some

of the planting, thinning, and forest improvement work of the Department of Conservation and Development. Col. Leonidas Coyle, State Fire Warden of New Jersey, gave demonstrations in observing and reporting on forest fires by air planes and autogiro planes equipped with portable receiving and transmitting radio, and by a number of portable pumps designed for fighting forest fires.

The Association dispatched a letter to Governor Pollard, of Virginia, expressing its con-



Group of State Foresters attending annual meeting of the Association of State Foresters in New Jersey.

was that he "toured the north state before the primary election knocking a candidate for the appellate bench." In dismissing this charge, the Governor, it is said, declared it must have been "some one who looked like Pratt." The charge of inefficiency was linked with the forest labor camps of the State. This charge was also thrown out because the Governor was "assured that the labor camp program for the coming winter will proceed in harmony and with proper care for the needy."

fidence in the work of State Forester Chapin Jones and urging that he be given a full and unprejudiced hearing.

Attention was called to the need of additional public funds with which to maintain control of the gypsy moth.

Discussion following a paper by State Forester Austin Hawes, of Connecticut, on "Forestry and Unemployment" centered on the clause in the emergency relief act authorizing loans from the Reconstruction Finance Corporation to limited dividend corporations for the protection and development of forests.

### Baker Named President of Massachusetts State College

Dr. Hugh Potter Baker has resigned as dean of the New York State College of Forestry, at Syracuse University, to become president of the Massachusetts State College at Amherst, Massachusetts. He will assume his new duties on February 1, 1933.

Dr. Baker has long been a leader in forestry education. Before becoming the first dean of the New York State College of Forestry he served on the forestry staffs of Iowa State College, Colorado College of Agriculture and Pennsylvania State College. From 1920 to 1930 he was active in organization work with industries, serving part of that time as executive secretary of the American Pulp and Paper Association, and later with the United States Chamber of Commerce. On September 1, 1930, he resumed his position as dean of the New York State College of Forestry.

He graduated from the Michigan State College in 1901, received a master's degree in forestry from the Yale Forest School in 1904, and the degree of Doctor of Economics from the University of Munich, Germany, in 1910. The new position offers Dr. Baker a larger opportunity to serve in educational and civic lines, while keeping in touch with forestry organizations and forest work in Massachusetts and New England.

### Tree Nursery Conference at Syracuse

The State Conservation Department and the New York State College of Forestry will sponsor a conference on forest tree nursery practice which will be held at the College of Forestry, November 29 and 30. This conference on the art and the science of growing young forest trees from seed, and successfully planting them on the abandoned lands in the State as future forests, will attract superintendents of State forest tree nurseries from many nearby commonwealths and other officials associated in reforestation and forestry. The indoor meetings will be held in the new Science Building of the College, the Louis Marshall Memorial.

The program will include speakers from the Conservation Department, the State College of Agriculture, the State College of Forestry, the United States Forest Service and nursery experts from other states.

### Pennsylvania Forests Serve Unemployed

Thirty-seven local relief projects, giving employment to nearly 400 men, are now under way in the various State Forests of Pennsylvania, according to Secretary Lewis E. Staley of the Department of Forests and Waters.

Employment and free fuelwood are provided through the cooperation of the district foresters and local welfare agencies, which have selected unemployed men who are cutting wood in the State Forests for which they receive either vouchers for food or direct payment.

One of the largest of such projects is in the

Mont Alto State Forest in Franklin County, where the American Legion of Waynesboro, in cooperation with District Forester W. L. Byers, has arranged for the cutting of 1,200 cords of wood from designated areas. More than seventy-five men are now working on this operation.

Some sixty men are working on roads and trails in the Tiadaghton State Forest, in Lycoming County. About 500 cords of wood have been cut so far and distributed among those doing the work. Permits have been issued to needy families for an additional 600 cords of dead and fallen timber.

In the Penn State Forest, in Centre County, 175 permits for free fuelwood have been issued since October 1. More than 500 cords of wood were removed and 1,000 acres of State Forest were improved by thinning out the dead and fallen material. About 400 cords of wood have been removed from the Susquehannock State Forest in Potter County by needy families.

### Ohio Valley Foresters Elect Shirley Allen Chairman

Professor Shirley W. Allen, of the School of Forestry and Conservation at the University of Michigan, was elected Chairman of the Ohio Valley Section of the Society of American Foresters at their annual meeting in Indianapolis, October 27 to 29. Professor Allen succeeds State Forester R. F. Wilcox, of Indiana. Extension Forester T. E. Shaw of Purdue University was reelected Secretary-Treasurer, and Robert V. Miller of the Illinois Department of Conservation was continued as chairman in charge of new memberships. The meeting was attended by professional foresters from southern Michigan, Indiana, Ohio, Illinois and Kentucky, and by the Executive Secretary of the Society, Franklin Reed of Washington, D. C.

### Ahern Raps Forest Policies of Administration

Pointing to the present administration as "hostile to the true interests of forests and forest conservation," Colonel George P. Ahern, U. S. A., retired, organizer of the Philippine Forest Service, in an address before the National Popular Government League late in October, laid to its door "continued unchecked devastation of private forests, lack of cooperation, and unwise reorganization."

Less than ten per cent of the nation's original forest remains, said Colonel Ahern, "and that remnant is being wrecked rapidly." Almost every state, he said, is headed toward bankruptcy of timber in merchantable size. He flayed the President's Timber Conservation Board, terming its members "hand picked regulators." Nothing has come from its work, he declared, "except some interesting statistics for which the Forest Service is chiefly responsible, and considerable propaganda that the Board was a great triumph for conservation."

His chief claim to lack of cooperation was put to Secretary of Agriculture Hyde because he "ridiculed the notion" of reforestation as an aid to unemployment. More than seventy thousand men could be put to work immediately on public lands alone at a cost of but \$52,000,000, he said, adding "all forward looking people see it, yet the cabinet officer in charge of all government forestry work went out of his way to belittle it and magnify its cost."

Colonel Ahern termed the proposed Public Works Department a "sort of glorified Interior Department." A transfer of the National Forests to such a department for administration would "facilitate the ease of their transfer to private interests," he declared.

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## FORESTRY IN CONGRESS

Further reductions in appropriations for forestry, control of the Public Domain, the proposal to make the Florida Everglades a National Park, and reorganization of the conservation bureaus of the Federal government, appear at this writing to be the major conservation questions which will come before the short session of Congress which convenes December 2. President Hoover has instructed the Bureau of the Budget in preparing its estimate of expenditures for the next fiscal year to reduce the total budget by \$500,000,000. To what extent Federal forestry will be called upon to contribute to this saving will not be known until the new budget is made public.

The department hearings before the Bureau of the Budget were completed during October in time for recommendations to Congress to be printed in a volume as large as a dictionary. These figures were before the members of the House Committee on Appropriations when they began their hearings with the several government departments on November 14. These estimates have been closely guarded from the public and will not be available to the press until after President Hoover sends his annual budget message to Congress early in December.

The House Committee on Appropriations consists of thirty-five members under Chairman Joseph W. Byrns, of Tennessee. The task of becoming familiar with the many details of annual appropriations involving more than \$4,000,000 is so stupendous that the responsibility for each of the ten departments is divided among smaller subcommittees. For example, the work of the Department of Agriculture, under which the Forest Service and the Biological Survey are bureaus, is reviewed by a subcommittee whose chairman is Representative John N. Sandlin of Louisiana. Other members of the committee are James P. Buchanan of Texas, Michael J. Hart of Michigan, Robert G. Simmons of Nebraska and John W. Summers of Washington. Similarly, the Department of the Interior, whose appropriations include sums for the Land Office, the National Park Service, and the Indian Service is headed by Chairman Edward T. Taylor of Colorado, with William W. Hastings of Oklahoma, William J. Granfield of Massachusetts, Frank Murphy of Ohio and Burton L. French of Idaho as subcommittee members.

The Senate Committee on Appropriations is headed by Senator Wesley L. Jones of Washington with twenty-one other Senators. As in the case of the House, subcommittees are formed to consider the work of the several departments. Senator Charles L. McNary of Oregon is Chairman of the Committee on Agriculture. Other members of the subcommittee are Henry W. Keyes of New Hampshire, Arthur Capper of Kansas, Gerald P. Nye of North Dakota, Peter Norbeck of South Dakota, L. J. Dickinson of Iowa, Ellison D. Smith of South Carolina, John B. Kendrick of Wyoming, Carl Hayden of Arizona, Royal S. Copeland of New York and Cameron Morrison of North Carolina.

The election of November 8 promises Democratic control in both Senate and House. Senator Ellison D. Smith of South Carolina will undoubtedly succeed Senator McNary as Chairman of the Committee on Agriculture and Forestry, and Senator Carter Glass of Virginia will probably become Chairman of the Committee on Appropriations to succeed Senator Jones.

Chairman Sandlin of the Subcommittee on Agricultural Appropriations reports that every effort will be made to expedite the appropriations so that they may be passed and enacted

early during the limited period of the short session of Congress. He says the plan is to pass four of the annual supply measures and send them to the Senate before Congress takes its Christmas holiday recess which usually lasts from about December 20 until January 3. In contrast to President Hoover's request that \$500,000,000 be taken from the current appropriations, Representative Sandlin has expressed the belief that \$300,000,000 may be cut.

Conservationists may well question how the government responsibilities for forestry and conservation will continue to function if a share of such a drastic cut is imposed upon them. This year's appropriation for the Forest Service is nearly \$5,000,000 less than that of a year ago. The Board of Directors of The American Forestry Association in a resolution has pointed out that further reductions to the Forest Service for the fiscal year 1934 will seriously impair the efficiency of the work with which it is charged. The association has also declared that white pine blister rust constitutes a menace to the forests of the northwest demanding increased appropriations in order to bring it under control. To accomplish this, appropriations from federal, state and private sources must be increased from the present total of \$283,000 to approximately \$900,000 a year. Efforts will be made to maintain the present appropriation in the regular bill, and to secure the additional amount in an emergency appropriation bill. Appropriations for administering and protecting the national forests, it is declared, can not be cut without reducing the number of men employed, and at the same time retrenching in important lines of work. Furthermore, additional reductions in the protection activities carried on in cooperation with the states under the Clarke-McNary Act may be expected seriously to affect the work of the state forestry organizations. This appropriation is now \$163,420 less than a year ago.

Reorganization of government bureaus and departments responsible for conservation is discussed elsewhere in this issue. On June 30, 1932, the Legislative Economy Act was approved authorizing the President to propose plans for reorganizing conservation and other activities in Government and submit them to Congress. The President's recommendations must be approved or disapproved by Congress within sixty days after he has made them. Accordingly, if President Hoover hopes to accomplish the changes he has in mind, they must be submitted early during the coming short session.

Representative Don P. Colton's bill, H. R. 11816, which provides for the protection of nearly 200,000,000 acres of unreserved Public Domain by dividing the lands into grazing ranges under the administration and protection of the Secretary of the Interior, was favorably reported by the House Committee on Public Lands on June 27, 1932, shortly before the first session of the present Congress adjourned. It is now ready for consideration by Congress and the first necessary move is to get it favorably placed on the House calendar. This will depend largely upon action by the Rules Committee. Mr. Colton's defeat in the recent election makes it even more imperative that his bill be passed during the next three months.

Senator Duncan U. Fletcher's bill, S. 475, authorizing the creation and administration of the Everglades National Park, passed the Senate on January 19 and is now before the House. It replaces Mrs. Ruth Bryan Owen's similar bill, H. R. 5063.

### Scouts Send Mount Vernon Walnuts to Prince Michael

In order that H. R. H. Crown Prince Michael might share in the activities of his fellow Boy Scouts, Scouts of the National Capital sent him a Mount Vernon walnut tree descendant to plant in honor of George Washington and to call attention to the value of planting nut trees. The tree was accepted by Frederic C. Nano, Chargé d'Affaires of the Roumanian Legation, and was sent by fast boat to Prince Michael in order that it might be planted as soon as possible. Scout Harry Barnett presented the tree to Mr. Nano before the legation staff and Scouts Richard Miller and Curtis Cooper.

The seedling was grown from walnuts gathered at Mount Vernon by Boy Scouts under the auspices of the nation wide Nut Tree



C. O. Buckingham

American Boy Scouts send His Royal Highness Prince Michael, who is a Roumanian Scout, a young walnut tree from Mount Vernon.

Planting Program which is sponsored by The American Forestry Association, Department of Agriculture, the American Walnut Manufacturers' Association, and Boy Scouts of America. Vice-President Curtis accompanied the Scouts to the home of George Washington when the seeds were gathered.

Although this illustrious Boy Scout has never visited America he can learn about the home of George Washington from his grandmother, Queen Marie, who can describe Mount Vernon to him because she visited this famous shrine during her stay in this country. Although he has been King of Roumania and as the Crown Prince is addressed as His Royal Highness, it is as a Boy Scout, interested in real boy activities, that he is planting the Mount Vernon walnut trees.

### Expedition to Study Wild Life of Northwestern Mexico

Vernon Bailey, naturalist of the Bureau of Biological Survey, left Washington early in October for a three-months' biological expedition in northwestern Mexico, with Frederic Winthrop, Jr., collector for the Museum of Comparative Zoology at Cambridge, Massachusetts. They will travel by pack horse through the canyons and mountains of northwestern Chihuahua and northeastern Sonora and by

automobile through the deserts of northwestern Sonora and along the coast of the Gulf of California. Mr. Bailey will be particularly interested in defining the southern ranges of mammals found in Arizona and New Mexico and in observing the migratory birds that winter in Sonora. He will study the life zones of the region, which for lack of sufficient data have not yet been mapped in detail.

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**A Forest Work Plan to Relieve  
Unemployment**

F. A. Anderson, a member of the Executive Committee of the Mississippi Forestry Association, has submitted to the Federal Finance Corporation a forest work plan designed to relieve unemployment and to effect land reconstruction in the Southern states. The plan calls for the acquisition by the Federal Government of a million acres of cut over land in each of the thirteen Southern states. Taxes on the land acquired are to be paid for at least five years in order to take care of the bonded indebtedness of the local districts.

After the land has been acquired, the Government, through the recruiting offices of the Army, would enlist men for periods of six months under Army regulations of acceptance for employment in forest work. A quota of 40,000 men between the ages of eighteen and thirty would be set for each state and compensation would be at the rate of \$1.00 a day and subsistence. Equipment to be furnished by the Army and men to be handled under Army regulations and training modified to meet the requirements of forest work.

"Upon arrival at the camp," Mr. Anderson says, "these men would immediately construct three or four room permanent cottages distributed over a picturesque forest ground near a running stream and if possible in such a manner that during the other six months of the year when they were not occupied by the Forest Reserve crews they could be rented to summer tourists or be used as Boy or Girl Scout camps and if necessary as military training camps by the Government each summer.

"After the completion of the building the construction of roads, trails, fire breaks through the timber reserve to be made and the taking over of the working of the roads in the area in which the forest area is situated would immediately relieve the tax burden on the other property owners. This would probably occupy the entire first six months, but this program could be continued for at least two or three years—the second year would complete the roads and rails that had not been completed. Then the process of using forest practice and management would be started, such as destroying of worthless trees and thinning out of trees which could be used to an advantage for wood and pulp.

"This investment in a half million young men would be a profitable one in the long run for the Government, as the Government's efforts are going to be the only practical and workable means of handling the potential forest lands. If we would stop building the three new battle ships or cruisers, we would have enough money to put this plan over.

"Through this program health would be promoted, game and fish would be preserved and replenished, timber, pulp wood, and ties produced, floods regulated. It seems to me much good would come to this great Government of ours by taking these half million young men more or less during the winter months and placing them in such an environment that would build up their physical body, giving them military training, teaching them to love God through nature and helping them build character within themselves by doing something useful and helpful for posterity."

**Frank L. Bitler Dies**

Frank L. Bitler, well known mining engineer of Philadelphia, and for many years associated with the Pennsylvania Forestry Association, died early in September. Long associated with forestry, both nationally and locally, Mr. Bitler served almost from its organization as Secretary and Treasurer of the Association, and also as Editor of *Forest Leaves*, its official publication.

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**QUESTION:** Please tell me why oak and hickory grow where pine trees have been cut down.—H. V. B., New York.

**ANSWER:** Usually this follows a mixed stand of pine and hardwood. The pine was probably dominant and represented the most important part of the stand. The oak, hickory, and other hardwood trees were too small and infrequent to be noticeable. The pine may have been cut in the winter. Possibly merchantable logs of oak and hickory were also cut, in which case many of them sprouted from the stumps or from the root ends the following spring. In any case, many inconspicuous seedlings under the new conditions with increased sunlight took on new life. Hardwood seedlings are usually more tolerant of long periods of shade than are small pine trees, so that a larger number would be waiting their opportunity to get in the sun.

This condition may be accelerated by the fact that oak, hickory and other hardwood trees produce seed crops every year, while pine frequently goes five to seven years without a seed crop. If the pine were cut during an "off year" there would be relatively few pine seeds in storage in the soil.

A larger percentage of pine trees can be secured by weeding and thinning to favor the existing pine trees, and possibly by planting some of the open spaces with pine. It would be impracticable to plant pine where the hardwood is dense.

**QUESTION:** What is the material that gives the impression of needles sticking into the tongue when one chews the root of the Jack-in-the-pulpit?—W. H. O., Pennsylvania.

**ANSWER:** This irritation is caused by the presence of calcium oxalate crystals which are present in the root cells. These form bundles of tiny crystals known as raphides in the corm or root. When eaten these puncture the skin on the tongue and mouth membranes, causing extreme irritation. Cooking is said to destroy the acrid properties of the corm.

**QUESTION:** Is there any way of killing willow stumps or trees by some method other than grubbing?—W. L. Z., Illinois.

**ANSWER:** A fairly satisfactory way to kill willow stumps and other trees without grubbing them is to apply poison after the following manner: Dissolve one pound of washing soda in a small amount of water, then mix one pound of arsenic with a little water to form a paste and mix the soda paste with the arsenic paste, using four gallons of water for the entire amount. Boil the entire mixture for one-half hour in the open, but avoid inhaling the fumes, which are poisonous. After the "mess" has been removed from the fire add one-half pound of whiting and stir.

Apply this to the stump or tree by "frilling" around the base with an ax so that one cut

overlaps another and makes a continuous groove. Pour a half pint or more of the arsenic mixture into the cuts so that they are completely saturated. Small trees may be cut clean and the material daubed over the exposed surface. The best time to apply this arsenic mixture is in the winter, although trees may be killed at any other season of the year. The mixture is so poisonous that it must be handled with care and stock should be kept out of the area for several months.

**QUESTION:** Can you give me information concerning the Australian pine?—J. M. S., Florida.

**ANSWER:** The Australian pine, or Shee oak, is known as the Sail tree in India and Egypt because the poles are strong and flexible enough to be used for masts and spars for the native ships. The tree has been planted in Florida largely as an ornament and to hold the sand along the sea coast. It has also been successfully planted in California, Arizona, New Mexico and southern Texas. It grows well in brackish, alkaline soil, in extremely warm climates and might possibly be planted for timber as in parts of Australia and the East Indies. The tree has no true leaves, but chlorophyll exists in the green jointed branches which resemble the stems of the equisetums, or "horse tails." It belongs to the *Casuarina* family, which has its name from the apparent resemblance of the green branches to the feathers of the Cassowary. There are about twenty-five species native to Australia, New Caledonia and the East Indies.

**QUESTION:** Will Colorado blue spruce grow in the same soil as Norway spruce?—L. C. E., Pennsylvania.

**ANSWER:** A Colorado blue spruce will grow in the same soil and climate as Norway spruce, and will stand more severe climatic changes.

**QUESTION:** Can one grow Douglas fir in New York State?—L. C. E., Pennsylvania.

**ANSWER:** Douglas fir grows successfully in New York State and throughout the entire northeast.

**QUESTION:** How does one handle nuts that are to be planted? When should they be planted? When gathered?—D. B., Minnesota.

**ANSWER:** Walnuts and other nuts should be gathered this fall as soon as they drop from the trees. They must be freed of the pulpy husk, after which they will grow satisfactorily if planted about three inches under the ground. They may also be stored underground or in a cool cellar and planted the following spring. More detailed information may be found in Department of Agriculture Leaflet No. 84, entitled "Planting Black Walnut."

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## THE CHRISTMAS TREE INDUSTRY IN MAINE

By AUSTIN H. WILKINS

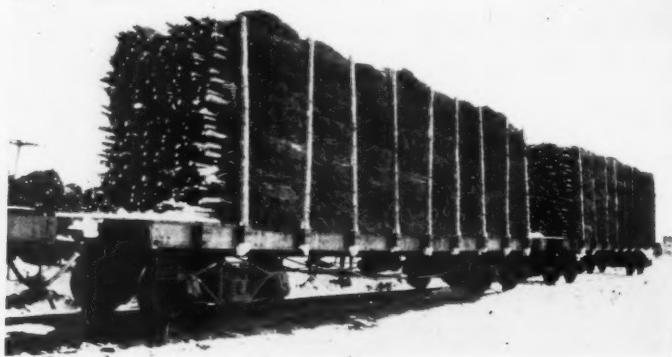
One of the most popular industries in Maine is the cutting of evergreen trees for the Christmas trade. Fir is preferred because of its pungent odor and because the needles persist longer on the tree. Spruce is a poor second choice, with pine a third.

This industry has developed in Maine very rapidly during the last forty years. The bulk of the trees come from Washington County and, strangely enough, the greater part of the harvest goes to the coal-mining and industrial regions of Pennsylvania. In 1931, Eastport and vicinity did over a \$10,000 business. One rail-

readily marketable are from 4 to 6 feet high.

The number of trees per car load varies from eighteen hundred to four thousand, as much depends upon their size. Most of these trees bring a retail price in the city markets ranging from fifty cents to four dollars each. One year, Christmas trees were so scarce that people paid as high as fifteen dollars a tree, while in another city there was such an oversupply that seventeen cars lay unloaded in the freight yard. They were finally burned.

Most of the trees cut are from old abandoned field and pasture lands which have re-



Christmas Trees Ready for Shipment from Maine to the Eastern Markets.

road company in Maine reports that since 1922 more than a million trees have been shipped annually over its lines.

The cutting of trees for the Yuletide begins in October and continues up to within a few days of Christmas. Stumpage prices vary from eight to twelve cents a bundle. For the current year of 1931 the average stumpage price was ten cents. The number of trees per bundle runs from one to five. Preparatory to long shipments, the common practice is to set the butt ends of the trees in water so that the absorbed moisture will enable the needles to persist longer. The trees which are the most

converted to forest growth, and from cut-over timberlands. Trees come up on these areas in dense thickets, and are sadly in need of a thinning from a forestry practice viewpoint. Contrary to public opinion the annual cut of these trees is not a destructive operation. Only the best shaped trees are selected and cut, and this results in a thinning which is a benefit to those remaining.

The Christmas-tree-cutting industry will undoubtedly continue to be one of the most popular industries in Maine. Millions of trees will be sent each year by rail, water, truck, and parcel post to gladden the home on Christmas Day.

## FORESTRY FELLOWSHIPS AT SYRACUSE

Nineteen fellowships have been granted this year by the New York State College of Forestry at Syracuse. These fellowships carry a definite stipend to graduate students who are especially qualified to take up advanced work. All of these men under the provisions of the fellowship give instructional assistance or routine departmental work not to exceed fifteen hours a week. The holder of the fellowship is expected to devote his full time for the period of his appointment to the work of his advanced degree as outlined by a committee of the faculty.

Students who have received fellowship appointments are Arthur J. Barry, B.S., New York State College of Forestry, in paper and pulp manufacture; Charles E. Beardsley, B.S., University of Minnesota, in forest utilization; Mason B. Bruce and David Campbell, New York State College of Forestry, in silviculture; Frederick S. Crysler, B.S., New York State College of Forestry, in forest chemistry; W. E. McQuilkin, B.S., University of Nebraska, in botany; N. D. Wygant, B.S., Purdue University, in forest entomology; Walter C. Gates,

B.S., New York State College of Forestry, in forest utilization; Ellwood S. Harrar, Jr., B.S. and M.S., New York State College of Forestry, in wood technology; Arne Haugberg, B.S., Royal College of Agriculture, Norway, in utilization; John H. Hawkins, B.S., Michigan State College, in forest management; Ludwig V. Kline, B.S. and M.S., New York State College of Forestry, in forest botany; George Kratina, B.S., New York State College of Forestry, in wood technology; James S. Kring, B.S., Colorado Agricultural College, in forest botany; Kenneth O. Maughan, B.S., Brigham Young University, and M.S., New York State College of Forestry, in recreation and park engineering; F. M. Meade, B.S., New York State College of Forestry, in silviculture; Nelson F. Rogers, B.S., New York State College of Forestry, in forest management; A. R. Sanford, B.S.F., University of Maine, in forest management; Eric W. Stark, B.S.F., Purdue University, in wood technology, and R. A. Vogenous, B.S., Pennsylvania State Forest School, and M.S., Pennsylvania State College, in silviculture.

### First Lady Plants Tree

Mrs. Herbert Hoover participated in a tree-planting ceremony at the Gordon High School, Washington, D. C., late in October. The planting marked the fifth anniversary of the school and was the inauguration of a plan of beautification of the school grounds, in which 100 dogwoods were set out. Students of the school presented Mrs. Hoover, in appreciation of her graciousness, with a number of gifts made by them.

### Program of National Audubon Association Upheld

The policies of the National Association of Audubon Societies in cooperating with other conservation agencies, government bureaus, and state departments, and in not opposing reasonable legal hunting, were endorsed at the 28th Annual Convention of the Association in New York late in October.

A small group of members had campaigned for proxies with which to elect two new directors, and require the management to stand aloof from state and federal conservation departments and other important conservation groups.

The Administration was supported by the great majority present at the convention and by proxies. The total vote for the Administration was 4,107, against 524 by the insurgents.

The policies and plans for work for the protection of wild birds and animals the coming year, as presented by Dr. T. Gilbert Pearson, president of the association, were heartily approved. These include: increasing of sanctuaries for wild birds; encouraging duck shooting clubs to set aside a part of their marshes as safety areas where wildfowl will not be shot; working for legislation to prohibit the use of the pole-trap for catching hawks, owls, and various useful birds; discouraging the use of the magazine shotgun; and prohibiting the shooting of ducks from blinds that have been baited for the purpose of attracting them.

The need of these and other restrictions are especially urged because of the precarious condition of the wildfowl supply and the fact that federal and state game-law enforcement is being retarded through lack of funds.

The Association will continue its educational program to the extent of its financial ability. Its staff of lecturers the past year numbered eleven. One hundred and sixty thousand children have been enrolled in bird-study clubs.

Dr. Frank M. Chapman, of New York, and William P. Wharton, of Groton, Massachusetts, whose terms as directors had expired, were again chosen by the membership. Dr. Pearson, who has been the executive head of the association for twenty-three years, was re-elected president.

### Foods of Predatory Michigan Fur Bearers Determined

The issue between farmers and sportsmen on the one hand and trappers and fur buyers on the other as to damage done by Bre'r Fox and fellow predators should be clarified by the findings of Dr. Ned Dearborn in two years' study of the foods of fur-bearing predators in Michigan. His results and conclusions have just been published as a bulletin of the School of Forestry and Conservation, University of Michigan.

Examination of more than 3,000 specimens of the viscera or droppings of a total of nine fur-bearing predators indicate that their chief food items in no case include valuable game species other than rabbits, and in few cases specimens or eggs of domestic poultry. The mink is particularly vicious on occasion and in

this study shows a fondness in winter for muskrats, rabbits, mice and fish. Other animals included in the study are opossum, raccoon, red fox, coyote, wild cat, weasel, skunk and badger. Of these carnivores only the raccoon, opossum and badger enjoy a closed season in Michigan.

In spite of his reputation as a robber of hen roosts and his bad name with hunters as a destroyer of game birds, Bre'r Fox gets a rather clean bill of health in this study. Mammals—principally rabbits, rats and mice—insects, and fruits far exceed his bird menu by volume both in 1930 and 1931. The examination of more than 500 specimens disclosed less than eleven per cent bird remains and little more than a trace of birds' eggs. Dr. Dearborn estimates that a fox may devour two grouse a year in regions where the latter are common, and adds that this is not an undue recompense for extensive destruction of rodent pests.

Another so-called predator whose reputation should benefit from this study by the School of Forestry and Conservation is the skunk. This valuable fur-bearer has been accused of destroying the eggs of poultry and large game birds from exceptional rather than frequent evidence, according to Dr. Dearborn. The examination of 1,700 feces and visceral contents of skunks, collected in 1930 and 1931, discloses from eighty-seven to eighty-nine per cent of insects and vegetable matter, ten per cent mammal remains, much of which probably was derived from carrion, only two per cent of bird remains, and one-tenth of one per cent of eggs. The shells of the latter were readily identifiable and none proved to be eggs of game birds.

With the skunk ranking second only to the muskrat in Michigan as a fur-bearer, and with his former legal protection status taken from him on suspicion, the findings of this study should interest farmers, trappers, hunters, and fur buyers.

In this entire investigation not one single life was taken, the stomachs examined being secured from animals killed for their pelts or by automobiles or by other accidents. The collection of droppings was carried on systematically during July, August, and early September, 1930 and 1931, in the lower peninsula of Michigan.

Commenting on the bulletin, which is published under the title "Foods of Some Predatory Fur-Bearing Animals in Michigan," Dean S. T. Dana of the School of Forestry and Conservation says: "It aims to substitute facts for guesses in the consideration of this much-argued but little-studied subject and to provide information essential for the intelligent management of one of the state's important resources."

### Forest Service Helps Relieve Unemployment in Oregon and Washington

Under the terms of the emergency relief and regular appropriation acts passed by the last Congress, \$1,632,053 will be spent this fiscal year in the National Forests of Oregon and Washington for the construction and improvement of forest highways, roads, trails, bridges, lookout cabins and towers and other permanent development projects. This is the largest sum ever received in one year by the local forest service for road and permanent improvement work, and will assist materially in relieving the unemployment problem.

Of the total federal allotment to the National Forests of Oregon and Washington, \$654,362 comes from the Emergency Relief Act signed by President Hoover on July 21, which contained a \$10,000,000 item to be expended in the National Forests throughout the country for unemployment relief. The remainder, \$977,691, is a part of the regular Department of Agriculture appropriation.

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This number was devoted entirely to the memory of Washington and to his love and appreciation of trees, and to the City of Washington and its tree beauty.

This issue will be a valuable souvenir in years to come. Copies may be secured for the present at regular rates by writing to the Association at 1727 K Street, Northwest, Washington, D. C.

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**AMONG THE CURRENT PUBLICATIONS**

*Park Primer, What Everybody Should Know About Parks.* Issued by the American Civic Association, Washington, D. C. The fourth edition of a valuable compilation of park data, enlarged in form and published both as a part of the 1932 American Civic Annual and as a separate bulletin of fifteen pages.

*Annual Report of The Smithsonian Institution.* Issued by the Government Printing Office at Washington, D. C. An account of the operations and condition of the Institution for the year ending June 30, 1931, with statistics of changes, proceedings of the Board of Regents, financial statement, and general appendix, comprising a selection of miscellaneous memoirs of interest to collaborators and correspondents of the Institution, teachers, and others engaged in the promotion of knowledge.

*The Alumni News, 1931.* New York State Ranger School, Wanakena, New York. Interesting collection of forest articles and experiences. Illustrated. Contains Directory of Ranger School Alumni.

*Rockeries,* by F. L. Mulford. Leaflet No. 90, United States Department of Agriculture. For sale by Superintendent of Documents, Washington, D. C. Eight illustrated pages describing the design and construction of rock gardens, rock borders, rock walls, etc.

*Timber Growing and Logging Practice in the Coast Redwood Region of California,* by S. B. Show, Introduction by R. Y. Stuart. Technical Bulletin No. 283, United States Department of Agriculture. Available at 5c from the Superintendent of Documents, Washington, D. C. Brief, readable description of forestry as practiced in the redwood region of California.

*Control of the Turpentine Borer in the Naval Stores Region,* by J. A. Beal. Circular No. 226, United States Department of Agriculture. For sale by Superintendent of Documents, Washington, D. C. Describes life history and methods of controlling the most destructive pest of turpentine orchards in the South.

*Estimating Timber in the Farm Woodlot,* by John Bentley, Jr. Cornell Extension Bulletin No. 232. Published by New York State College of Agriculture at Cornell University, Ithaca, New York. An old bulletin revised and brought up to date.

*Annual Report of the Commissioner of Conservation and State Forester,* for year ending November 30, 1931; Department of Conservation, Boston, Massachusetts, reports that 3,557.61 acres were purchased or acquired by gift during 1931. This brought the total area in state forests to 118,628.5 acres. Over 1,500,000 trees were planted on these lands during the year, and forest fires burned less than 1,200 acres.

*Indiana Audubon Society Year Book.* Published by the Indiana Audubon Society for Conservation of Bird Life, 4030 Park Avenue, Indianapolis, Indiana. Price, \$1.00. One hundred pages of fascinating notes on birds, dedicated to Dr. Amos William Butler, with a sketch of his life and list of his publications.

### Empire State Meeting

The Empire State Forest Products Association at its annual meeting in Albany, New York, on October 6, passed a resolution against further reductions in the federal appropriations for forest fire protection and looking toward the resumption of the original plan of annually increased appropriations authorized by the Clarke-McNary Act.

Another resolution endorsed the idea of making loans for forest protection and development purposes by the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, and suggested that the paragraph in the unemployment relief act relating to such loans be clarified to the end that loans may be applied to present conditions of timber growing.

Charles E. Norris of the Northern New York Utilities Company was reelected President of the Association for the coming year, as were also Vice-President Thomas H. Stirling, Treasurer W. Clyde Sykes, and Forester and Secretary A. B. Recknagel.

### Connecticut "Forestry Puzzle"

The Connecticut Forest and Park Association has issued a "forestry puzzle" of unique interest. Designed for educational purposes, it is composed of eight numbered pictures, with twenty-three cut pieces to form the complete pictures. Copies are available from the Association headquarters at 215 Church Street, New Haven, Connecticut.

### THE IVORY-BILL IS STILL KING!

(Continued from page 635)

outside boards in a desperate effort to escape. Then he tied the bird to a solid mahogany table. An hour later when he returned, the monarch had ruined the table with a steady pounding of his powerful bill which sounded to Audubon like something akin to a noise "produced by a heavy mallet on a cement walk." The bird refused all sustenance and three days later its plaintive cries were stilled by death.

A contributing cause to its downfall, aside from its great size, noisy habits and the insatiable desire of the gunman, was the lust of the Indian savage for its scalp. The head and bill of the Ivory-bill was held in great esteem by the Southern Indians for centuries and they wore them as a simple charm and ornament, or as a talisman. Legend has it they disposed of them in quantities to northern tribesmen at high prices, for an Indian believed the head, skin or even feathers of a certain bird conferred on the wearer all the virtues and excellencies of the fowl itself.

### LADY SAMARITAN OF THE CHRISTMAS GREENS

(Continued from page 643)

ing the hearts and minds of her mountain friends through the medium of greater understanding and interest in each other and their surroundings.

Her work is among the women, but the men folk have for the most part accepted her doctrines. Just occasionally is there a discord, as in the case of her visit to a small cabin nestling in a forest clearing. She was offering suggestions concerning the proper methods of ploughing and planting when the husband of her hostess sullenly voiced his resentment at the intrusion of a woman in his work. The mountain wife apologetically grasped her visitor's arm.

"Don't you mind him, ma'am, he jes' ain't brained it yet."

But he did later, and was an enthusiastic host when Mrs. Speed again visited the cabin.

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## Book Reviews



**FOREST TREES AND TIMBERS OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE—SOME EAST AFRICAN CONIFERAE AND LEGUMINOSAE**, by L. Chalk, J. Burtt Davy and H. E. Desch. Published by the Clarendon Press, Oxford. 68 pages. Price, \$1.75.

The detail with which ten trees are described is little short of astounding. It promises to be the first of a series dealing with the forest trees and timbers of the British Empire. If the other volumes of this series are carried out in the same way, Dr. J. Burtt Davy and Dr. L. Chalk of the Imperial Forestry Institute of Oxford have a life work before them.

The botanical description of each tree is supported by line drawings, while other plates show photographs of tangential and transverse sections of the wood, together with the typical form of the tree. The text also describes some features of forest management as applied to the species and the principal insect and fungus diseases of each.

This first volume includes three conifers of the family Cupressaceae, and seven broad-leaved trees.—G. H. C.

**BIRDS OF EASTERN NORTH AMERICA**, by Frank M. Chapman. Published by D. Appleton and Company, New York. 581 pages—Illustrated. Price \$5.00.

This 1932 revised edition of Dr. Chapman's standard handbook comes as a result of the revised classification of birds completed by the American Ornithologists' Union. Since the groupings and terminology of birds have been extensively changed under the present plan, the volume has been completely re-arranged and also extensively rewritten to accord with the "Check List of North American Birds" in its current issue.

In delightful informative chapters charged to the full with his deep and enthusiastic interest in his subject, Dr. Chapman tells of the birds' economic importance, bird identification and naming, field equipment, bird-banding, and the technique of collecting. He then proceeds to a detailed and comprehensive classification of birds according to distribution, migration, voice, plumage, food, nesting seasons, and activities. Also, he includes field keys on the identification and study of birds, a feature enhancing the book's supreme value as an all-round guide and text for every bird lover. The former edition of Dr. Chapman's book was a great work. This is even greater.—E. K.

**WAITING IN THE WILDERNESS**, by Enos A. Mills. Published by Houghton Mifflin Company, New York. 241 pages—Illustrated. Price \$2.50.

There is something alluring about the title of this book and the name of Enos A. Mills associated with it makes it more so. For when this eminent nature lover waited in the wilderness he usually saw things of real, worthwhile interest. This time he saw "pirates" in the mountains, the lions play "soft pedal," the happy-go-lucky black bear, a collie in the desert, a wild thoroughbred and many other equally as intriguing things. To those who have ever waited in the wilderness this book

will be a real companion. To those who have it yet to come, it will prove a friendly guide.—E. K.

**WOODSMAN'S MANUAL** by Austin Cary. Published by the Harvard University Press, Cambridge, Massachusetts. 366 pages—Illustrated. Price, \$3.00.

The fourth edition and a thorough revision of Mr. Carey's "Manual for Northern Woods-men," which was first published in 1909. This new edition, like those that have preceded it, is designed primarily for use in the woods and in offices concerned with the management of timber lands. It has been revised to meet the changing character of the demand made on working woodsmen and to include a broader area of application.

An outstanding addition is an entirely new part on the growth of timber. To those who have merely theoretical or inquisitive interest in the subject this addition may prove inadequate, but to those who "must answer as best they can questions relating to the growth of timber," as the author puts it, this new portion will be highly serviceable.—E. K.

**AMERICAN BOYS' BOOK OF BUGS, BUTTERFLIES AND BEETLES**, by Dan Beard. Published by J. P. Lippincott Company, Philadelphia. 365 pages—Illustrated. Price \$3.00.

From the moment this book is opened the reader realizes that he has found a most human book on bugs. One is introduced in the first chapter to the true meaning of the word "bug," and later to those finer distinctions between bugs and beetles, and butterflies and moths which challenge the best powers of observation.

As the title indicates, "American Boys' Book of Bugs, Butterflies and Beetles" was written for boys, but Dan Beard has so filled it with his philosophy of a long and useful life that boys who have long become men and grown women who were once "tom boys" will read it with profit.

"This book," writes Dan Beard, "was written, not to take the place of any other book in the field, but to stimulate your interest and encourage you to read other books which take up the subject in a more technical manner,—but beyond all this and above all this is the hope that this book will encourage you to go afield and hunt insects and study them first hand. Such work will develop your power of observation."

Those who read it will certainly look at insects with a keener interest, and may even be encouraged to go out and study them.—G. H. C.

**BIRD SONGS AND SONGS OF THE OPEN**, by Bert Dayton. Published by the Palisade Press, New York. 96 pages. Price \$1.50.

This poet has listened to the song of the birds, and caught and interpreted in charming verse for the nature lover the delicate meaning of the song,—the significance of the call. A reading of these cheerful verses brings delightful sense of friendly, intimate relation with nature's sweet singers.—L. M. C.



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## CONSERVATION ASSOCIATIONS PRESENT VIEWS ON REORGANIZATION TO GOVERNMENT

Agreed upon principles which in their judgment should guide the reorganization of federal conservation activities, representatives of seven national organizations appeared before Colonel J. Clawson Roop, Director of the Bureau of the Budget, on November 11 and presented their views. The group included Chester Gray, The American Farm Bureau Federation; Ovid Butler and G. H. Collingwood, The American Forestry Association; Seth Gordon, The American Game Association; Dr. W. D'Arcy Magee, Izaak Walton League of America; Franklin W. Reed, Society of American Foresters; E. G. McClosky, the National Grange, and W. G. Howard, the Association of State Foresters.

Mr. Butler in introducing Chester Gray as spokesman for the group told Colonel Roop that each of the organizations after long and earnest consideration of the question of federal reorganization as it affects the welfare of conservation had reached conclusions which rest upon common principle and major purpose. This purpose, he said, is a constructive effort to increase and develop natural, renewable resources. "The conservation activities in which we are interested," he continued, "deal basically with plant and animal life in relation to the soil. Fish, wild life, and plant life all come together in such a classification and all should be concentrated in the department created for and dedicated to the study of plant and animal life and its relation to the use of the soil. In so far as that set of living resources is broken up," he pointed out, "it becomes necessary to build up and duplicate a background of scientific information and service in each department."

Mr. Gray, in speaking for the group, pointed out that a logical classification of conservation agencies includes the United States Forest Service, the Biological Survey, the Bureau of Fisheries, the National Park Service, and the Reclamation Survey, together with responsibility for administering range and timberlands on the unreserved Public Domain, and the forests of Alaska. Concentration of these activities, he said, should be in the Department of Agriculture because each is an inseparable part of the basic purpose and function of the Department. Referring to the power given the Bureau of the Budget in the Legislative Econ-

omy Act, Mr. Gray spoke of the scientific personnel of the Department of Agriculture, its ability to care for Government responsibilities in developing the organic, naturally renewable resources, and finally of the national land utilization policy which clearly demands consideration of conservation as a land problem. This points clearly, he said, to the efficiency as well as the economy of such a classification.

Speaking of game management, Seth Gordon, president of the American Game Association, said it is a land use problem with the farmer in a pivotal position in any program of constructive development, and compared the National Parks to reservoirs from which wild life overflows to the surrounding territory.

Similarly, the fisherman's interest in pure streams with plenty of water well stocked with fish is an example of the interdependence of recreation with other fields of conservation and land use. These conservation responsibilities, declared Dr. W. D'Arcy Magee, a director of the Izaak Walton League of America, can best function under one department where the dangers of lost motion and overlapping with other departments can be avoided.

The satisfactory cooperation existing between the United States Forest Service and the forest officers of the forty-one states in building up systems for the protection of forest lands from fire, and in the distribution of forest planting stock, was referred to by W. G. Howard, president of the Association of State Foresters and Superintendent of Lands and Forests with the New York State Conservation Commission. Mr. Howard also referred to the invaluable services to forestry and conservation performed by the Branch of Forest Research.

In response to Colonel Roop's expressed opinion that so complex a thing as life or the activities of Government can not be split into water tight compartments, Franklin Reed, secretary of the Society of American Foresters, compared the Government Printing Office, where the printing work of all Government departments is centered without duplication or overlapping of their major policy-making functions, to the conservation work of the Government if it were grouped together under one department and satisfactorily coordinated with other Government work.

## VIRGINIA'S GOVERNOR GRANTS HEARING TO CHAPIN JONES

Governor John Garland Pollard has granted a hearing to Virginia's State Forester, Chapin Jones, on November 17, in order that the Governor may secure information upon which to base his decision as to whether or not he will approve the order of William E. Carson, Chairman of the State Commission on Conservation and Development, dismissing Mr. Jones from office. This promises to conclude a controversy which began shortly after August 31 when the Commission passed a resolution requesting Mr. Jones' resignation. The original resolution called on State Forester Jones to resign by March 1, 1933, which he refused to do. Accordingly, an order was submitted to Governor Pollard on October 25 making the dismissal effective as of December 31.

The order, signed by Chairman Carson, states that "the sole ground and the sole reason" for Mr. Jones' dismissal is his "lack of executive energy and ability." The State law requires that this be approved by the Governor.

Chapin Jones has been State Forester of Virginia since March 1, 1915. Under his direction a forest protective system has been built up covering, in 1931, 10,223,247 acres of the 16,737,395 acres which, it is estimated, need protection by the State. During 1931 fires were reported by the forest wardens to have burned 151,131 acres of the area under protection, 1.48 per cent of the area protected. During the fiscal year 1932 (which included six months of the calendar year 1931) Virginia spent \$87,966.20 on the cooperative fire control project, of which \$35,730.00 was allotted from the Clarke-McNary funds distributed by the United States Forest Service. \$6,039.12 consisted of private funds voluntarily contributed by landowners, and the remaining \$46,197.08 was paid out of State and county funds. The work is organized in cooperation with counties, which are required to pay suppression costs incurred by forest wardens. To date such cooperation has been successfully established with fifty-six counties out of a total of one hundred in the State.

## CHRISTMAS ON THE COU COU

(Continued from page 632)

when the snow is thick they come with a swish of the ghostly paddles through the tree tops, crying their weird cries above the voice of the storm. On New Year's Eve they visit old friends and old haunts, and many a man has seen his chum who died on the log drive crying to him from the ghost canoe.

Pierre had one other personal devil. This was Monsieur Royard, the big lumber jobber at the cache. Pierre didn't work for him, but his heart bled for the poor wretches who did. They had to cut 125 twelve-foot logs in the green bush, 150 in the *brulee*, for a day's hire. They were cozened and cheated of their wages, and kept in bondage of debt, to be worked out on the log drive in the spring. Worst of all, Monsieur Royard worked his horses to death, and before the winter was over would be able to show a mound of fifty-two dead equines.

When the timber wolf howled outside the camp at night, Pierre would purse his lips and say, "Voila, the soul of Royard."

After La Riviere went to the hospital the big boss—the company agent—came in to see why so many men froze their feet. The trouble was, when a moccasin or a sock wore out, there were no replacements. In the cookery was a chest full of stuff, but there was no clerk to disburse it. The clerk had disappeared over the hills some time ago and was suspected of living with a squaw. Whereupon I was relieved of the ax, given the timekeeper's book and the keys to the chest.

One day there appeared from nowhere a lumberjack to join our gang. The first thing he bought was tobacco; the next day he bought mittens, and next asked for underwear. He had not earned the price of it, as I told him, but he opened his shirt and showed me a garment he said had been next to his skin for five months. He got the underwear. He also got a thorough delousing from Pierre, who always took care of serious cases.

In February we moved the camp farther up along the Cou Cou.

"They've got us at their mercy now!" said the buck beaver. "We can never get out!"

One blustery, blizzy morning, when the driving sleet was like fine knives, Monette turned the men out to work on a burned over hill. The buck beaver mutinied. It was too hellish a day to work, he said. The eyelids of

the men were crusting over with congealed snow. The blast sucked the breath from their bodies.

Too hellish a day, the buck beaver said as he came back to camp at the head of his gang. Who was he to decide on the weather! Monette laid him out with his fists. Then he went through the leaderless pack like a tornado. With fists and feet he drove them into the bunkhouse. Plunging in, he grabbed each man's duffle bag and threw it at him.

"Any man that doesn't want to work can go to hell!" he said.

Fifteen men decided to go to hell; fifteen men went back into the cold inferno of the hilltop. The mutineers were given each a slab of pork, a hunk of bread and a pinch of tea, for they were taking the road of hell in dead earnest.

No teams had traveled the trail back since the week before, and in the meantime heavy snows had drifted. It was twelve miles to the old camp at the falls, twenty-six miles to the cache, and twenty-six miles from the cache to the rail head. Tomorrow there might be teams breaking out the road on ahead, but these could not give the mutineers a lift, under penalty of the law, lumber company law, for they were outlaws. When the clerk at the rail head deducted charges and forfeits, some of the men would not draw the price of a ticket back to the towns. It would be necessary to start them along at the point of a gun.

These things they did not know as yet because they did not think them possible. They shook hands with the clerk, and Monette booted them out.

The steely claws of the wind tore at them. The sleet screeched through the roaring gusts, and granulated ice hissed through soaring curtains of the snow. The buck beaver pulled his *calotte* tighter down around his ears and started.

The mutineers bent their heads to the Arctic blast. One hundred yards from camp and the blizzard laid its winding sheet about them. They were gone.

Those who were left in camp laughed, lest the sudden fear clutching at their hearts cause them to turn pale. For no one knew who would be next, no one but Monette, the dark, brooding master of the forest.

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### THE WILD LIFE OF DENALI

(Continued from page 645)

caribou. We were climbing up a steep mountain side and had stopped by a lichen-covered rock to rest. While there Mrs. Dixon looked up and saw a band of migrating caribou coming over a divide about two hundred yards distant. They were strung out single file. I knew that the trail they were on led past our hiding place, so we "sat tight" waiting to see how close they would come to us. The wind was blowing hard and directly from the caribou to us, so we knew that they would not be able to scent us. The band was led by an old bull with half-grown, grotesque velvet antlers. As they came to an open meadow the main part of the herd spread out and began to graze, but the old bull in the lead kept coming directly toward us, and, as we held our breaths, passed by us within ten feet, by actual measurements, without detecting our presence. However, the moment he got behind us the wind carried our scent, and he nearly exploded in mad fright. His tail went straight up in the air and he went off up the hill in stiff-legged bounds that alarmed the whole band, which, in turn, went bounding up the hill through a snowdrift."

I closed the diary, with peace full upon my heart. It was great to be a field naturalist! Sleepy-eyed, I made my way off to bed—to enjoy a good night's sleep.

### THE TREE AND ART IN PHOTOGRAPHY

(Continued from page 652)

architecture, of material, attention of the photographer is centered on clearness, on the detail desired. But to work for effect, and that is for art, the curse of lines must be overcome by decorating.

"Trees pick up the highlights as mass without detail. They grace an otherwise drab subject, lending their motion to the effect of the whole."

The subjects illustrating this article are exquisite examples of Mr. Horydczak's art. The study on page 652, a sunset scene over the Potomac River, is almost poetry.

"Had the slender branches and small leaves of the willow tree been allowed to droop straight down," Mr. Horydczak explained, "they would have failed in their purpose of giving motion, or art, to an otherwise lifeless sky. The lower part of the study is motion itself, with the wind giving the water just enough ripple for life."

In the picture on page 653, of old St. John's Church in Washington, D. C., trees were used for framing as well as for decoration. They set off admirably the central theme of the study, and at the same time contribute the motion giving shadows and highlights. As this picture was taken for effect, or art, detail has been shut out. Depth was provided by the use of wide angle lens and the night effect was achieved, as in the case of the first study, of the Potomac River, by the use of panchromatic film and a K-3 filter. Both are daylight exposures.

"Art where trees are concerned is most readily achieved through the wise use of silhouette effects," said Mr. Horydczak. "A painter resorts to color without detail; the photographer to mass without detail. A careful analysis of the two pictures presented here will carry out this statement."

A person will achieve art in outdoor photography, Mr. Horydczak believes, to the extent of mastery of technique and sense of motion. "You cannot photograph what you cannot see and feel," he concluded.

### WHO'S WHO

Among the Authors in This Issue

IGNATIUS PHAYRE (*The Jungle Harvest of Christmas Nuts*), world traveler and well known Irish novelist, is in reality William George Fitz-Gerald, brother of the Right Honorable Desmond Fitz-Gerald, of the Irish Free State. In 1925 he undertook a three-year tour of all the Latin American Republics, spending a great deal of time in Brazil. More recently he explored Africa. He has contributed much of his findings on these expeditions to AMERICAN FORESTS.



JAMES H. NEWTON (*Christmas on the Cou Cou*) is on the editorial staff of the New Bedford, Massachusetts, Standard. After receiving his degree at Dartmouth College in 1924 he "enjoyed a brief teaching experience in Worcester before entering newspaper work."

HERBERT S. LAMPMAN (*Boy Lost*) is Military Disciplinarian of Hill Military Academy, at Portland, Oregon, and previous to that was associated with several Pacific Coast newspapers. "A great deal of my leisure," he writes, "is spent out of doors, and I prefer fishing to hunting."

ALDINE R. BIRD (*The Ivory-Bill is Still King*) has long been associated with newspaper work and at the present time is an editor and special feature writer in Baltimore, Maryland.

WILLOUGHBY WELCH (*Mary Pickford's Christmas Trees*) is a writer of Hollywood, California.



Josephine Laxton

JOSEPHINE LAXTON (*Lady Samaritan of the Christmas Greens*) has been a member of the staff of the Appalachian Forest Experiment Station at Asheville, North Carolina, since its organization in 1912, and is intensely interested in the development of forestry in the Southern Appalachians.

LAURA THORNBOROUGH (*Conservation in Congress*) is a special writer, dividing her time between the Great Smoky Mountain region in Tennessee and the National Capital. For a while she was associated with the Motion Pictures Division of the United States Department of Agriculture, but now is giving full time to her writing. A number of her articles have appeared in AMERICAN FORESTS.

JOSEPH S. DIXON (*Meeting the Wild Life of Denali*) is Field Naturalist in the National Park Service, with headquarters and office at the University of California, at Berkeley.

WAKELIN MCNEEL (*Forest Page for Boys and Girls*) is a leader in club work for boys and girls in Wisconsin, making his headquarters at Madison.

OIDV BUTLER (*Conservation Sidelights on Reorganization*) is Executive Secretary of The American Forestry Association and Editor of AMERICAN FORESTS.

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